



Stack's  *Bowers*
GALLERIES

The Winter 2014
Baltimore Auction
Rarities Night



RARITIESNIGHT



Baltimore, Maryland
Baltimore Convention Center

October 30, 2014

**The Official Auction of the
Whitman Coin & Collectibles
Baltimore Expo**



Stack's Bowers Galleries

Upcoming Auction Schedule

Coins and Currency

Date	Auction	Consignment Deadline
Continuous	Stack's Bowers Galleries Weekly Internet Auctions Closing Every Sunday	Continuous
December 2-4 2014	Stack's Bowers and Ponterio - <i>World Coins & Paper Money</i> Macau Auction of Chinese and Asian Coins & Currency Macau	September 30, 2014
January 9-10, 2015	Stack's Bowers Galleries – <i>World Coins & Paper Money</i> An Official Auction of the NYINC New York, NY	November 1, 2014
January 21-23, 2015	Stack's Bowers Galleries – <i>U.S. Coins</i> Americana Sale New York, NY	November 26, 2014
March 3-7, 2015	Stack's Bowers Galleries – <i>U.S. Coins</i> Official Auction of the Portland National Money Show	January 5, 2015
March 26-29, 2015	Stack's Bowers Galleries – <i>U.S. Coins & Currency</i> Official Auction of the Whitman Coin & Collectibles Baltimore Expo Baltimore, MD	February 2, 2015
March 30-April 1, 2015	Stack's Bowers and Ponterio – <i>World Coins & Paper Money</i> Hong Kong Auction of Chinese and Asian Coins & Currency Hong Kong	January 30, 2015
July 16-19, 2015	Stack's Bowers Galleries – <i>U.S. Coins</i> Official Auction of the Whitman Coin & Collectibles Baltimore Expo Baltimore, MD	May 25, 2015
August 11-15, 2015	Stack's Bowers Galleries – <i>World Coins & Paper Money</i> An Official Auction of the ANA World's Fair of Money Chicago, IL	June 9, 2015
August 11-15, 2015	Stack's Bowers Galleries – <i>U.S. Coins & Currency</i> An Official Auction of the ANA World's Fair of Money Chicago, IL	June 15, 2015
August 22-26, 2015	Stack's Bowers and Ponterio – <i>World Coins & Paper Money</i> Hong Kong Auction of Chinese and Asian Coins & Currency Hong Kong	June 17, 2015
October 2015	Stack's Bowers Galleries – <i>U.S. Coins</i> An Official Auction of the PNG New York Invitational New York, NY	July 24, 2015
November 5-8, 2015	Stack's Bowers Galleries – <i>World Coins & Paper Money</i> Official Auction of the Whitman Coin & Collectibles Baltimore Expo Baltimore, MD	September 4, 2015
November 5-8, 2015	Stack's Bowers Galleries – <i>U.S. Coins & Currency</i> Official Auction of the Whitman Coin & Collectibles Baltimore Expo Baltimore, MD	September 15, 2015
November 29, 2015	Stack's Bowers Galleries – <i>U.S. Coins, U.S. Currency, World Coins, World Paper Money and Ancient Coins</i> Official Auction of the Michigan State Numismatic Society Fall Convention. iAuction.	October 26, 2015

Stack's Bowers Galleries presents

The Winter 2014 Baltimore Auction

Rarities Night Auction

October 30, 2014

Baltimore Convention Center

One West Pratt Street

Baltimore, MD 21201

Tel: 410.649.7000



The 1853 Collection

the strong
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF **PLAY**

Selections from the Collections of The Strong, Rochester, New York

The William Tabachnik Collection

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How to Bid

Before the Live Auction

There are several ways to bid prior to the start of the live auction.

Fax/Mail Bid Sheet

Use the enclosed bid sheet and mail or fax it to us. If sending by mail, please allow sufficient time for the postal service.

Mail: Att. Auction Department Fax: 949.253.4091
Stack's Bowers Galleries
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Irvine, CA 92614
United States

Phone

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Internet

View additional images and add items to your personal tracking list. You may also place bids and check their status in real time. Visit our website at www.stacksbowers.com.

During the Live Auction

Attend in Person

Auction Event: Baltimore Convention Center
One West Pratt St
Baltimore, MD 21201
Tel: 410.649.7000

Live Online Bidding

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The Winter 2014 Baltimore Auction

October 30 & November 4, 2014

Lot Viewing

Lot Viewing will be conducted in the Irvine, CA offices (by appointment only): October 9-14

Lot Viewing will be conducted in the NY offices (by appointment only): October 20-25

Lot Viewing will be conducted at the Baltimore Convention Center, Room 307, as follows:

Tuesday, October 28	Wednesday, October 29	Thursday, October 30	Friday, October 31	Saturday, November 1
9:00 AM – 7:00 PM ET	9:00 AM – 7:00 PM ET	9:00 AM – 7:00 PM ET	9:00 AM – 7:00 PM ET	9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon ET

Auction Location

Baltimore Convention Center
One West Pratt St
Baltimore, MD 21201
Tel: 410.649.7000

Auction Details

The Auction will be conducted at the Baltimore Convention Center, Room 309, as follows:

Session 4 – Rarities Night

Thursday, October 30, 2014
6:30 PM ET
Lots 10001-10282

Please see separate catalogs for U.S. Coins, U.S. Currency and World Coins and Paper Money.

Session 1 – U.S. Coins
Wednesday, October 29
6:00 PM

Session A – World Paper
Money, Ancient Coins and
Mexico Coins
Thursday, October 30
10:00 AM
Lots 1-722

Session 2 – U.S. Coins
Thursday, October 30
11:00 AM

Session 3 – U.S. Currency
Thursday, October 30
6:00 PM ET
Lots 2001-2652

Session B – World Coins
Friday, October 31
10:00 AM ET
Lots 1001-1580

Session 5 – U.S. Coins
Friday, October 31
11:00 AM ET

Session 6 – Colonial Coinage
Friday, October 31
5:00 PM ET
Lots 6001-6456

Session 7 – U.S. Currency
Internet Only
Ends Tuesday, November 4
3:00 PM PT
Lots 13001-13558

Session 8 – U.S. Coins
Internet Only
Ends Tuesday, November 4
3:00 PM PT

Session C – World and Ancient
Coins Internet Only
Ends Tuesday, November 4
3:00 PM PT
Lots 11001-11476

Session D – World Paper
Money Internet Only
Ends Tuesday, November 4
3:00 PM PT
Lots 12001-12120

Lot Pickup

Lot Pick up will be conducted at the Baltimore Convention Center, Room 307, as follows:

Thursday, October 30	Friday, October 31	Saturday, November 1
10:00 AM – 1:00 PM ET	10:00 AM – 1:00 PM ET	10:00 AM – 12:00 NOON

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Carola Ponterio

Stack's Bowers Galleries presents The Rarities Night Auction

Always a Magnet

Rarities Night and its antecedents have been a tradition with us for many years. It's several hours of bidding activity that features the finest of the fine, the rarest of the rare — or close, perhaps the numismatic equivalent of a concours d'élégance. These special auction events are always a magnet and attract attention from far and wide. Of course, this event cannot stand alone. The specialist in double eagles who pursues the rare 1885 offered here also needs (or already has) a common 1904-S, for example. Rarities are the highlights of any collection.

The 1853 Collection sets the tempo for Rarities Night. One hardly ever hears of Proof silver coins of this year, and yet there are several here. At the other end of the spectrum is the 1853-O Liberty Seated half dollar without arrows, one of only four known to exist, all of which are extensively worn. The 1853 Proof restrike silver dollar was made when it was realized that no original Proofs had been made that year. Tradition has it that only 12 were struck, probably under the watch of James Ross Snowden as Mint director. This coin, offered as part of The 1853 Collection, is pedigreed to Floyd T. Starr, an old-time Philadelphia numismatist whose estate collection we sold years ago. Floyd began seriously collecting coins in the 1930s when he became fearful that the government might clamp down on private holdings in the era when citizens were commanded to surrender their gold coins for face value. Thankfully, numismatists were spared. Pedigrees always add another dimension to a coin, and included here are many great figures.

Other highlights include coins from the famous Rochester museum, The Strong, with even more selections offered in our main catalog. The history of The Strong is given in the present pages. The William Tabachnick Collection is also represented in both of our catalogs.

Beyond The 1853 Collection, lots are offered in numismatic order. Early on the list is a marvelous 1793 Chain AMERICA cent with periods, from a distinctive obverse die. This was a year of changes and evolution at the early United States Mint. Among modern cent rarities, the Doubled Die Obverse 1969-S is particularly famous, and we invite you to review the one we offer. Condition rarities in popular series such as Shield nickels, Mercury dimes, Standing Liberty quarters, and other 19th and 20th century series offer many opportunities.

Treasures will be found among gold coins of various denominations, several rare eagles such as a Mint State 1799, an 1883-CC in like condition, a 1907 Indian with Wire Rim, and an outstanding Gem Sand Blast Proof 1911. I've already mentioned the rare 1885 double eagle. For the specialist, there are important patterns, rarities in the Norse-American Centennial medal series, and a Mint State 1852 California gold "slug."

Come to the Sale

If your schedule permits, drive, fly, or take the train to Baltimore to be a part of Rarities Night and our companion sessions. A warm welcome awaits you. Meet and greet our staff, examine auction lots, and take part in one of the most active dealer bourses of the year. Opportunities abound.

I remind you that Baltimore is one of the most numismatic of all cities. For starters, Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. lived here and formed what no one has ever done before and will never do again: a complete collection of every date and mintmark of United States coin from the 1793 half cent to the 1933 double eagle. The Garrett Collection was formed in Baltimore from the 1870s through the late 1930s, a legendary cabinet. Waldo C. Newcomer, Mendes I. Cohen, George Massamore, Frank Duffield, and other greats from Baltimore all have niches in the Pantheon of numismatics, not to overlook Dr. George Fuld, who in his lifetime made immense contributions of study and research.

Participate Online

If you cannot attend in person, our state-of-the-art website permits participation in real time from Redmond, Morristown, Vladivostok, Monaco, or wherever you may be. Participation is easy. Preregister and perfect your credit arrangements. Then when the sale is in progress, you can watch the auctioneer in real time, click the “bid” button, and be a part of the action. Although no one could have predicted this a generation ago, today it is far and away our most popular bidding venue! With advance arrangements you can also participate by telephone, and a member of our team will represent you in the auction room.

Consign to Our Next Auction

As we prepare to bring our 2014 auction schedule to a close, we invite you to take advantage of the excitement and enthusiasm that awaits, and be a part of our dynamic 2015 auction program! We are currently accepting U.S.

coin and currency consignments for the January 2015 New York Americana Sale, March 2015 Official Auction of the ANA National Money Show in Portland, and our March 2015 Official Auction of the Whitman Coin & Collectibles Baltimore Expo. For information regarding these upcoming sales and inquiries on how to have your rarities featured in future auctions, please visit StacksBowers.com, or contact a consignment director at 800.458.4646 (West Coast) or 800.566.2580 (East Coast).

On behalf of all of us at Stack's Bowers Galleries, we appreciate your review of our Rarities Night catalog for the Winter 2014 Official Auction of the Whitman Coin & Collectibles Baltimore Expo. It promises to be a grand event, and we look forward to you being a part of it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Q. David Bowers', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Q. David Bowers
Founder

The Strong: National Museum of Play Rochester, New York

The Strong, located in Rochester, New York, is a highly interactive museum devoted to the history and exploration of play and houses the world's largest and most comprehensive collection of historical materials related to play. Margaret Woodbury Strong, a prolific collector of everyday objects, especially dolls and toys, founded The Strong in 1968 under the name "Margaret Woodbury Strong Museum of Fascination." Before she died in 1969, she bequeathed her considerable estate to help support the museum, and 13 years later it opened in a new 156,000-square-foot building on 13.5 acres in downtown Rochester, New York. Now known simply as The Strong, it spans more than 282,000 square feet and serves global audiences on-site at the museum, online, and through the work of its International Center for the

History of Electronic Games, the National Toy Hall of Fame, the Brian Sutton-Smith Library and Archives of Play, the Woodbury School, and the American Journal of Play.

Born in 1897, Margaret Woodbury Strong grew up an only child in a wealthy family of collectors. Her father, John Charles Woodbury (1859–1937), collected coins and recorded life events in scrapbooks. Her mother, Alice Motley Woodbury (1859–1933), collected 19th-century Japanese objects d'art. Margaret's collecting interests ranged so widely and her methods assumed such aggressive proportions that by the late 1960s, she had amassed more than 27,000 dolls and a seemingly endless number of middle-class American household objects spread over more than 50 categories. The vast



The Numismatic notebooks and ledgers of John Charles Woodbury (1859–1937), primary accumulator of The Strong's extensive coin collection.

majority of her collections, however, related in some way to play, and she earned a particular reputation for her outstanding collection of dolls and toys.

The Strong's coin collection was largely accumulated by Margaret Strong's father, John Woodbury. Woodbury served as president of the Woodbury Whip Company, one of the nation's largest buggy whip makers. He also associated with Rochester photographic innovator George Eastman and had become one of the earliest investors in Eastman Kodak. Financially secure, Woodbury retired in 1910 with the means and opportunity to pursue personal interests, including coin collecting. As the ninth president of the Rochester Numismatic Association, Woodbury stood among the prominent collectors of his time.

In 1989, numismatic expert Henry Grunthal appraised The Strong's coin collection. His evaluation supported the museum's decision in 1990 to deaccession 4,900 coins that Stack's auctioned later that year. Now, more than two decades later, The Strong continues to review and refine all its collections to best support its mission and its interpretive goals. The items in this sale represent the latest stage in The Strong's continuous process of developing an outstanding collection focused on the subject of play. Funds from the sale of the museum's numismatic materials will be dedicated to new acquisitions and the care and preservation of objects in its collection.



Order of Sale

Session 4 – Rarities Night

Thursday, October 30 – 6:30 PM ET

Lots 10001-10282

The 1853 Collection

Category	Lot Number
The 1853 Collection	10001-10100
Half Cents	10001-10005
Large Cents	10006-10008
Silver Three-Cent Piece.....	10009
Half Dimes	10010-10014
Dimes.....	10015-10019
Quarter Dollars	10020-10025
Half Dollars.....	10026-10029
Silver Dollars	10030-10032
Gold Dollars	10033-10037
Quarter Eagles.....	10038-10041
Half Eagles	10042-10044
Eagles	10045-10048
Double Eagles.....	10049-10052
Pattern and Experimental Coins.....	10053-10065
Private and Territorial	
Gold Coins and Related.....	10066-10073
Naval Medal.....	10074
Indian Peace Medals.....	10075-10079
Agricultural, Mechanical,	
Scientific, and	
Professional Medals.....	10080-10084
Washingtoniana	10085-10088
Masonic Chapter.....	10089
Award Medals.....	10090-10092
Life Saving Medal.....	10093
Fairs and Expositions	10094-10095
So-Called Dollar	10096
Merchant Tokens	10097-10098
Counterstamps	10099-10100

Category	Lot Number
Additional Rarities	10101-10282
Medal	10101
Large Cents	10102-10105
Small Cents	10106-10117
Silver Three-Cent Piece.....	10118-10140
Nickel Five-Cent Pieces	10141-10153
Half Dimes	10154-10155
Dimes.....	10156-10159
Twenty-Cent Piece.....	10160-10161
Quarter Dollars	10162-10170
Half Dollars.....	10171-10178
Silver Dollars	10179-10193
Trade Dollar	10194-10195
Modern Dollar	10196
Quarter Eagles.....	10197-10201
Three-Dollar Gold Piece.....	10202-10206
Half Eagles	10207-10214
Eagles	10215-10230
Double Eagles.....	10231-10257
Commemorative Silver Coins	10258-10265
Commemorative Gold Coins	10266-10268
Pattern and Experimental Coins.....	10269-10273
Mint Errors	10274-10276
Private and Territorial	
Gold Coins and Related.....	10277-10281
Hawaiian Coins, Medals,	
Tokens and Related.....	10282

THE NOVEMBER 2014 RARITIES NIGHT AUCTION

SESSION 4

featuring THE 1853 COLLECTION



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2014

STARTS 6:00 PM ET

THE 1853 COLLECTION LOTS 10001-10100
ADDITIONAL RARITIES LOTS 10101-10282



THE INCREDIBLE 1853 COLLECTION

By our consignor's own admission, "1853 is quite unremarkable; other years had more famous things happen," and this, juxtaposed with the magnificent collection presented in the pages that follow, is exactly what makes history so exciting. It is full of surprises, coincidences and intrigue.

Collectors focus on the items they do for many reasons. The manifestations are as diverse as any other aspect of the human experience. Where numismatics is concerned, the typical inspirations are found in historic events such as the American Revolution, California Gold Rush or Civil War. Others find great fascination in persons such as George Washington or perhaps the kings and queens of England. Still others find enjoyment in collecting for any number of other reasons — perhaps development of a childhood interest, or a memory of a grandfather studying and sharing his passion with a young collector. To each his own, as it is often said. But at the root of it all is a passion that drives the collector to seek the objects of his particular fascination. This is the human element in forming a collection of anything—that shared perspective that we can all appreciate, whether we are collectors or not. In the present case, that fascination settled, rather by accident, on the date 1853.

The present collection was formed by a consummate collector, a gentleman with diverse interests, and a true student of numismatics. He began many years ago as so many do, initially seeking to assemble a type set of United States issues. However, he added a personal challenge to build his set within the narrowest possible

span of dates. The year 1853 seemed a worthwhile focal point, selected for its interesting inclusion of nearly all circulating American denominations, save for the two-cent piece, twenty-cent piece, and three-dollar gold. The early acquisition of the extraordinary 1848 eagle, included herein, is explained by this original plan. But, as the coins were acquired, our consignor began to see 1853 as special, outstanding even, for the unexpected historical richness he noticed. The more he discovered, the more fascinating he found the date, and he soon decided to collect this year, exclusively. He did so with passion and a keen appreciation for quality, as seen throughout the collection. As his interest increased, the collection grew, extending into medals and eventually newspapers, books, and all sorts of anecdotes and ephemera. It became a pleasant diversion, as we all hope our collections to be, but one that yielded our consignor dividends beyond what one might usually anticipate from a collection of coins. The more he learned about the date, the more he saw it in his daily life, and the more rewarding the hunt became as this "unremarkable" year became richly fascinating.

It is our hope and expectation that the pages to follow will prove an inspiration to other collectors. Our consignor was fortunate to land upon this unusual focus for his collection. He developed it with style and excellent taste, but most importantly he had a great deal of fun along the way. This is what collecting is all about, and we are delighted to be able to share in his journey through the presentation of his exceptional acquisitions in the listings that follow.



HALF CENTS



10001 1853 C-1, the only known dies. Rarity-1. Manley Die State 2.0. MS-64 RB (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Lustrous medium brown with pleasing accents of mint red around the obverse devices. The reverse exhibits similar toning, but is more subdued with nuances of steel. A nice example of the second die state, exhibiting softness in the development of the rims

and denticles. A lovely coin to begin our offering of the extraordinary 1853 Collection.

PCGS# 1228.

PCGS Population: 33; 10 finer (MS-65 RB finest in this category).

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from Ken Goldman; South Miami Rare Coins; privately to the 1853 Collection, April 1992.

January 1853

Stephen Foster published *My Old Kentucky Home* in January 1853. It is believed to have been inspired by Harriett Beecher Stowe's famous work, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, published in 1851. The first public performance of the tune was by Christy's Minstrels, also in 1853. This minstrel troupe is well known in numismatic circles for their countermarks on coins, occasionally seen in exonomia collections. Foster's song was declared the official Kentucky State Song in 1928. Quite a few years later, our consignor was born in Kentucky.



Stephen Foster.



*My Old Kentucky Home
by Stephen Foster.*



10002 1853 C-1, the only known dies. Rarity-1. Manley Die State 2.0. MS-64 RB (PCGS). CAC. A second example of the late state and virtually identical to the above coin, though with somewhat more pronounced weakness in the obverse rim toward 4 o'clock. Attractive surfaces display pleasing luster and generous mint red remaining around the devices, through the legends and somewhat beyond. Appealing

chocolate brown otherwise. A small planchet void off the left ribbon tip would serve to identify this specimen in the future.

PCGS# 1228.

PCGS Population: 33; 10 finer (MS-65 RB finest in this category).

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from McCawley and Grellman's Mail Bid Sale of May 1995, lot 58.



Though the final ratification would not occur until the summer of 1854, what is known as the Gadsden Purchase was set in motion by the December 30th signing of a treaty with Mexico that would transfer 30,000 square miles of Mexican territory to the United States for the sum of \$10 million. The purchase was initiated by interest in the acquisition of territory through which to construct a transcontinental railroad. It was the last addition of land to the contiguous 48 United States.



10003 1853 C-1, the only known dies. Rarity-1. Manley Die State 1.0. MS-64 BN (PCGS). CAC. Dark chocolate brown dominates the surfaces with traces of deep violet and steel overtones. Sharply struck from fresh dies in their early state, with crisp details throughout. The diagnostic die scratch

through the first T of STATES is bold.

PCGS# 1227.

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from McCawley and Grellman's Mail Bid Sale of May 1995, lot 59.

The June 11, 1853, edition of Boston's New England Farmer paper reports on great concerns over the use of profits from Harriet Beecher Stowe's Uncle Tom's Cabin: "The papers here have been sorely puzzled to know what disposal to make of the profits of 'Uncle Tom's Cabin' and the proceeds of the British testimonials recently made to the author. Some of them have invested the money in an elegant stone house at Andover. Others have hinted that the dollars dropped into a secret bag, from whose mysterious depths no solitary penny ever returned, even to cheer the hard lot of the fugitive from bondage. Others still, with stronger faith in human virtue, have predicted that a noble charity would yet grow out of this Uncle Tom excitement." In response to the

public concerns and accusations, Reverend Henry Ward Beecher, Mrs. Stowe's brother responded that "...no such disposition has been made of the avails of Uncle Tom's Cabin. Mrs. Stowe has not purchased not does she own, any house or ground whatsoever." He goes on to clarify that "...Mrs. Stowe has from the first desired to turn whatever influence this work might give her, to the elevation of the African race. The plan which has been most in her thoughts has been a seminary in which persons of African descent may be thoroughly educated, not merely in literary and scientific courses, but in practical arts, by which they might secure and maintain a proper place in society."



10004 1853 C-1, the only known dies. Rarity-1. Manley Die State 1.0—Rim Clip—MS-63 BN (PCGS). Glossy and uniform medium chestnut brown on both sides. A prominent planchet clip is seen toward 10 o'clock relative to the obverse, and corresponding softness in the rims is seen directly opposite, the telltale marker of a genuine mint-made clip that occurred prior to striking. This softness inconveniently corresponds to the usual rim weakness seen in the later die state, but this coin was struck from the early state of the dies as evidenced by the pronounced die scratch through the first T in STATES. In this particular case, the clip is actually

straight, indicating that this planchet was cut from the end of the planchet strip, and just off the edge. A lovely half cent error from the year of James Ross Snowden's appointment as director of the Mint. Presumably, he would not have been amused at such errors escaping his facility unnoticed, but we are delighted to see them today!

PCGS# 1227.

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from Don Valenziano, April 1991; The Davy Collection; Ira & Larry Goldbergs' sale of the Davy Collection, September 2010, lot 361.

Rare Tilted Partial Collar Error



10005 1853 C-1, the only known dies. Rarity-1. Manley Die State 1.0—Partial Collar Strike—Unc Details—Filed Rims (PCGS). Light chestnut brown with traces of pale blue and violet in the fields. A small rim cut has been partially filed on the obverse, between 9 and 10 o'clock, but with little adverse effect. An interesting and rarely seen error. The tilted partial collar is clearly visible, even in the grading service's holder, but even more dramatically so when seen outside the holder.

The broad rims resulting from this type of error show little denticular detail, but the coin was struck from an early state of the dies with the strong die scratch at the first T of STATES. An interesting piece for the half cent specialist or error enthusiast, as these are rarely encountered.

PCGS# 1227.

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from our (Bowers and Merena's) sale of September 1992, lot 100; The Davy Collection; Ira & Larry Goldbergs' sale of the Davy Collection, September 2010, lot 360.

LARGE CENTS

The Finest Graded Braided Hair Cent An Exquisite Gem, CC#1



10006 1853 N-9. Rarity-2. Noyes Die State B/B. MS-67 RD (PCGS). OGH. An outstanding coin that is considered the very finest survivor of the Newcomb-9 variety, called MS-67 in the EAC Census, and confirmed by Bob Grellman to be that coin more than a decade ago. It is also the only Braided Hair cent of any date or variety graded as a full red MS-67 by PCGS or NGC, and none have been rated higher. The luster is remarkable and creates lively cartwheels when the coin is rotated in the light. The surfaces exhibit a fine satiny texture that is almost undisturbed save for a few trivial handling marks that mostly require magnification to discern. Beautifully struck with good execution of essentially all design elements. A few of the obverse stars are marginally sharper than others, but all show the design features of their centers with ease. The surfaces are radiant bright rose and red, and are almost completely free of any trace of deeper patina. It is amazing that any copper coins from this period

have retained such fresh, original color, but they are seen on rare occasions and always attract serious competition at auction. The last appearance of this coin was in 2001, so many collectors today have never had a chance to compete for this finest known piece. The coin realized nearly \$15,000 at that time, a testament to its incredible and unusual quality. More recently, an 1855 cent graded MS-66+ RD by PCGS appeared in our 2013 sale of the Cardinal Collection, a coin that this one surpasses in grade by a small margin. That coin realized more than \$38,000 in our sale. We expect that the desirability of this coin has not waned in the least since its last offering and that, after fierce competition, it will soon grace the cabinet of another connoisseur.

PCGS# 1903.

PCGS Population: 1; none finer.

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from Heritage's sale of August 2001, lot 5248.

It was reported in the **January 8, 1853**, edition of the New York Daily Tribune that one W.W. Wilson was arrested on the Friday the 7th, charged with counterfeiting bank notes and coins. On his person were discovered counterfeiting molds for coins, with coins to match, and at his premises there were impressions of bank bills and plates of known counterfeits recently put into circulation. In his defense it was pointed out that he was an official agent of the Association of New England banks to detect counterfeits, and he was released on \$5,000 bail. In the afternoon, he was arrested again with new charges, and bail was set at \$10,000. Interestingly, in our (Stack's) sale of September 2009 we sold an engraver's specimen sheet by William W. Wilson of Boston, as lot 2674. It is the only one we are aware of.



Engraver's specimen sheet by
William W. Wilson of Boston.

Unique Proof 1853 Large Cent



10007 1853 N-16. Unique (as a Proof). Noyes Die State B/B, Grellman Die State a. Proof-64 BN (PCGS). Lovely deep chocolate brown with a distinctive olive tint. The fields are somewhat reflective on both sides and display inviting rose and gold iridescence, with traces of pale blue in the most protected areas. Nicely struck overall. The razor-sharp characteristics one might normally expect on a Proof are not well developed here, but this is not unusual among these specially made large cents of the era. The design is nicely executed, with complete star centers seen throughout, and the central motif is satiny and lustrous. The reverse is likewise well made, with a subtle squaring off of the central letters and light reflectivity in the fields. A pair of tiny planchet flakes or lint marks are noted behind Liberty's head, as made. A few scattered flecks are seen in the left obverse field, and a small spot is noted above the 8 in the date.

Some have questioned the existence of the 1853 cent in Proof. Walter Breen, in his *Encyclopedia of United States and Colonial Proof Coins*, reported one "supposedly in the proof set," referring to Tom Elder's 1910 sale of the Peter Mougey Collection, lot 1277. This coin has not been seen or confirmed. Breen mentions a second example, that from Charles Steigerwalt's 1894 sale of the George Crawford Collection, a sale notable for its "copper Proofs," and later, New Netherlands' 41st sale. Breen concluded that this coin, an N-16, was an "early strike," and reported no confirmed Proofs known. In Bob Grellman's *The Die Varieties of United States Large Cents*, he discusses "Proofs" and comments that early strikes from this die pair have been called Proof in the past, noting the third-party certification of one lone specimen (this coin). While Grellman concludes that these are "highly questionable," as actual Proof strikes, he notably stops short of condemning them with finality. One of the difficulties with coins like this is that, often, those tasked with making a final decision do not have a good body of comparative pieces on hand to study. We have the good

fortune of having access to an additional early state N-16, and it has been enlightening to study these coins side by side. While the Proof is admittedly not well made when compared with other Proof coins of the 1850s, this situation is seen on Proofs of other denominations of this year. Perhaps the best made is the 1853 dollar, but that seems to have been struck later. On the other hand, when compared with circulation strike coins, even these less than optimally made Proofs stand out as being obviously different. This coin is an excellent case-in-point. The general appearance of the circulation strike N-16 is exactly what one would expect on a Gem large cent — lovely satiny surfaces, consistent through the fields and across the devices, with bold cartwheel luster. The Proof exhibits different field texture and no luster, which is substituted for the light reflectivity from the gently polished dies. The strike on the Proof is marginally better, and the greatest differences may be seen in the formation of the letters. On the circulation strike, they are rounded. On the Proof, they are gently squared and have a more refined appearance.

While it is easy to see why this piece could be called into question on its own, it is clearly different from the beautiful Gem circulation strike coin. As noted above, this is the coin that Bob Grellman cited as being in a third-party grading holder, certified as a Proof. At the time that was published, it was housed in an NGC holder, having been judged by their experts. Now, the experts at PCGS have agreed, and crossed the coin over to their holder, independently. It seems that the questionable nature of the 1853 Proof large cent is on the way to being set aside, but it remains the case that only one has been confirmed. This is the opportunity to secure that prized coin.

PCGS# 1988.

PCGS Population: just 1 in all grades.

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from Superior's session of Auction '89, July 1989, lot 506; R. Tettenhorst, to the present consignor privately, November 1994.



10008 1853 N-16. Rarity-1. Noyes Die State B/B. MS-65+ BN (PCGS). CAC. Exceptionally clean satin surfaces with cartwheels of luster on both sides. Medium brown, with nuances of steel and inviting red outlines to nearly all devices. Only a couple of trivial marks seen under magnification account for the assigned grade. This said, there are certainly

large cents graded finer that don't look as nice as this piece. A simply outstanding example of the date and variety.

PCGS# 1901.

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from Ed Hipps; Bob Grellman Collection; purchased privately from Bob Grellman, June 1992.

SILVER THREE-CENT PIECE

Gem 1853 Three Cent Silver



10009 1853 MS-67 (NGC). Deep silver gray with somewhat darker highlights on the star points and legend. Very uniform satin texture creates strong cartwheel luster. Nicely struck with bold definition of the shield elements, and full separation of its border elements. On the reverse only three stars have softly defined centers, while the others are complete. NGC has graded none finer than this one, and PCGS has graded

only a single coin one point finer. A lovely high-grade piece that would be a challenge to improve upon.

PCGS# 3667.

NGC Census: 8; none finer at this service.

January and March 1853

From the 1853 Collection. Previously from Heritage's Bullet Sale of September 1997, lot 94.

The April 2, 1853 edition of Scientific American reports on the New Silver Coin,

"The weight of the new silver coinage authorized by the recent act of Congress, which goes into operation in June next, as compared with that coinage since the passage of the act upon the same subject in 1837, is as follows:

Silver	Act of Jan, 1837	Act of Feb. '53
Dollar	412 1/2 grains.	No change.
Half Dollar	206 1/4 "	192 grains.
Quarter Dollar	103 1/3 "	96 "
Dime	41 1/4 "	38.40 "
Half Dime	20 5/8 "	19.2 "

HALF DIMES

The Eliasberg 1853 No Arrows Half Dime



10010 1853 No Arrows. MS-65 (PCGS). CAC. A lovely Gem with lustrous pearlescent gray surfaces accented by mottled deeper gray and pastel highlights. A remarkable coin, we rated it "MS-66" when we last sold it in 1996, where we described it, in part, as follows: "Delicate golden and magenta toning over unbelievably lustrous and frosty surfaces. One of the finest quality half dimes in existence of any date of this design." While PCGS did not agree with our grade assessment in 1996, the next owner is likely to find it impressive, as the eye appeal is outstanding. While

Mint State coins do appear from time to time, Gems are quite scarce and this one comes with one of the truly great provenance chains in numismatics.

PCGS# 4351.

PCGS Population: 7; 9 finer (MS-68 finest).

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from Chapman Brothers, June 1907; J.M. Clapp; Clapp Estate, 1942, to Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr.; our (Bowers and Merena's) sale of the Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection, May 1996, lot 987.

The Eliasberg 1853-O No Arrows Half Dime

Tied for Finest Known



10011 1853-O No Arrows. MS-65 (PCGS). CAC. Light russet, blue and green mottling on the obverse, while the reverse exhibits generous light greenish blue iridescence over about 40% of the surface. Otherwise, both sides are satiny and lustrous golden silver. This lovely specimen is one of the two finest known of this classic of the series. PCGS has graded one additional coin at this level with none finer. NGC has not graded any Gems. While it is reported that 160,000 coins were struck, it is believed that the majority of the mintage was melted. The New Orleans Mint called in and/or did not distribute much of its coinage struck prior to the Act of February 21, 1853, and in autumn 1853 shipped over \$1 million in silver coins of various denominations to Philadelphia to be melted and recoinced into lighter-weight issues under the new standard; \$100 worth of old-style silver

coins yielded \$108.33 worth of the new, lighter coins (with arrows at the date). As a result, this issue is scarce in all grades today and Mint State survivors are decidedly rare. In fact, PCGS and NGC report only nine grading records in Mint State, combined. As this one is tied for finest known with one other, and neither has sold publicly in years, we expect the offering of this piece to be met with enthusiasm. When this coin was cataloged in 1996, it was called "possibly finest known." While we do not have the benefit of comparing the two pieces, CAC has granted its approval of this one and, certainly, the famous provenance adds appeal.

PCGS# 4352.

PCGS Population: 2; none finer.

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from our (Bowers and Merena's) sale of the Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection, May 1996, lot 988.

Proof 1853 Arrows Half Dime Rarity



10012 1853 Arrows. Proof—Improperly Cleaned (NCS). Fully brilliant silver surfaces display just one tiny spot of toning on the obverse rim near the second star. Well struck at the centers, a little less so at the rims, but a fine wire is seen around part of the circumference of each side. Though cleaned, the fields show subtle reflective qualities on both sides, and the reverse devices retain a frosty texture. Striations in the reverse fields from die polishing are prominent, oriented diagonally downward, and are visible across most of the field. The obverse shows striations of a different character extending through the fields and devices.

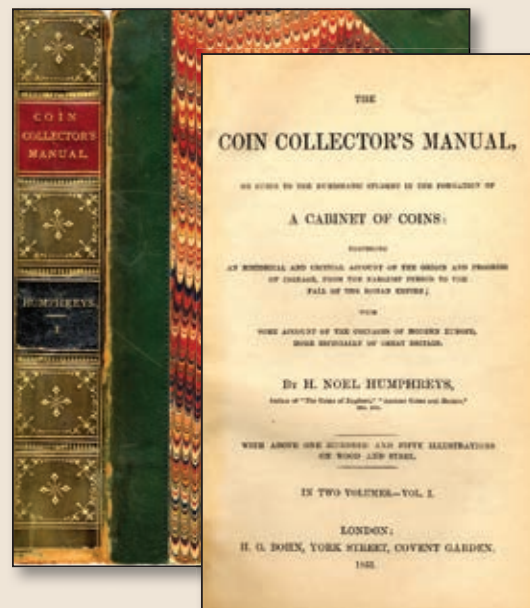
These appear more like adjustment marks seen on early American silver or planchet texture lines that did not strike out. These are rather curious and rarely seen on coins of this vintage. Struck from a different die pair than described by Walter Breen in his *Encyclopedia of United States and Colonial Proof Coins*, though that die pair is represented in the 1853 Collection by the coin that follows.

PCGS# 4431.

From the 1853 Collection. Purchased privately from Julian Leidman, June 2008.

The two-volume reference, *The Coin Collector's Manual, or Guide to the Numismatic Student in the Formation of a Cabinet of Coins*, by Henry Noel Humphrey was **published in London in 1853**. The reference is a fairly thorough survey of the most popular areas of collecting in England in the 1850s, with extensive (for the scope of the book) discussions of Ancient coins and their art, how to detect forgeries, a listing of abbreviations seen in the legends and a scale of prices. The various Kings of England are discussed, as are coins of other Continental countries, with lesser examination of the coins of Asia, Africa and America.

The Coin Collector's Manual,
front cover and title page



Outstanding Gem 1853 Arrows Half Dime

Possible Proof



10013 1853 Arrows. MS-67 (PCGS). CAC. A simply magnificent Gem. Beautiful pale greenish blue with mild rose near the obverse rims, while considerable silver still shows through. The reverse is similarly toned, but lighter and more mottled in character. Bold luster with strong elements of prooflike flash noted in certain light, this from the aggressive die polishing lines that are seen throughout the fields. The fields are very different in texture than the devices, which are sharp and satiny, creating a pleasant visual contrast. The lower areas of the relief show thin spots where the polishing of the dies has removed some of the most shallow design elements. The overall eye appeal is truly superb and this is likely one of the most visually striking 1853 Arrows half dimes of this grade.

The grade of this particular coin is worthy of careful consideration. While graded as a circulation strike by PCGS, it is struck by the same dies identified and described by Walter Breen as those used for the extremely rare Proofs. In Breen's *Encyclopedia of United States and Colonial Proof Coins*, the plate coin is the former F.C.C. Boyd-Elliott Landau Collection coin (New Netherlands' 52nd Sale, December 1958:387), and it shows the same distinctive patterns of die striae as this piece.

Additionally, both PCGS and NGC include one Proof example in their population data. The PCGS Coinfacts website has an exceptional, high resolution image of the coin they have graded. Close inspection of that image confirms that the present coin was struck by the same die pair, seemingly in the same die state. The only difference seems to be that the present coin is marginally *sharper*. PCGS Coinfacts also provides similar images for beautiful Gem circulation strikes. This coin is far better made than those. Here, the rims are full and squared on the inner

circumference as well as the outer, and there is a wire rim around most of both sides. The denticles are fully formed and completely separated from the rim as well as from each other. On the Gem Mint State coins, this is certainly not the case, as the denticles and inner rims are soft and dished in places on each coin examined. While this coin may not be made as well as other Proofs of the 1850s, that reflects a production standard typical of other Proofs for the year, and there is simply no positive comparison to be made between this coin and those commonly traded as circulation strikes.

Further evidence may be found in the pages of David Akers' sale of the John J. Pittman Collection. Therein an example of this variety was offered (lot 495), graded by Akers as Gem Uncirculated. The text of the catalog, however, raised the issue that some notable figures had long believed that coin to be a Proof. Among them is Walter Breen who examined this coin in 1952 and used it as the basis for his description of the Proof dies in his *Encyclopedia*. While Akers felt that calling the coin a circulation strike was more appropriate, it sold for an extraordinary \$77,000, the third highest price realized for any half dime in the Pittman Collection, behind only the Gem 1792, and the Gem 1797 15 Stars coins. Clearly, more than one bidder felt differently about the coin than did Akers, and they were willing to support their opinions with their bidding paddles. As another example from these dies, and one so markedly different from the typical circulation strikes, we can only say that the market may well need to determine the true status of this amazing coin as it has for others in the past.

PCGS# 4356.

PCGS Population: 5; 1 finer (MS-67+).

From the 1853 Collection. Purchased privately from Numismatic Consultants, February 1992.

On March 30, 1853, a Dutchman was born who would change the way color was used and seen in the world of fine art, influencing generations of artists to come. Though he lived only 37 years, and found it difficult to sell his unorthodox works in the late Victorian period dominated by Realism, Vincent van Gogh has become one of the most famous painters of all time. Many of his paintings are iconic, and some have commanded among the highest prices ever paid for paintings. He is considered by many to be the critical inspiration for what would be-

come the Expressionist movement in the early 20th century, and later still, to the mid-century Abstract Expressionists. In a letter to his brother, art dealer Theo van Gogh, he wrote, "[R]eal painters do not paint things as they are...they paint them as they themselves feel them to be." This statement is interesting for the clear break it makes with Realism. Though the letter was private, it seems that the identical sentiment was adopted by the art world at large and the effects may be seen in much of the art that followed Van Gogh.

Lovely Gem 1853-O Half Dime

With Arrows



10014 1853-O Arrows. MS-66 (PCGS). CAC. A fabulous little Gem half dime, as fresh and original as could be hoped for. Sharply struck, with bold silver luster and rich pastel overtones blended across both sides. Struck from clashed dies with the evidence seen on both sides, though it is more pronounced on the reverse. The obverse die has begun to fail, as small radial cracks now connect the rim to star one, with another from the rim through the cap toward Miss

Liberty's arm. Exceptional eye appeal. Just two coins have been graded finer, and with only seven grading records at this level (taking records from both major services into account), it is clear that this is among the finest survivors.

PCGS# 4357.

PCGS Population: 4; 2 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the 1853 Collection. Purchased privately from South Miami Rare Coins, December 1990.

DIMES

Gem 1853 No Arrows Dime



10015 1853 No Arrows. Fortin-101a. Rarity-5. MS-66 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Nearly fully brilliant, save for a light blush of uniform golden toning over both sides. Bold cartwheels of luster on both sides are intensified by the light flow lines imparted from the wearing dies. Clash marks are easily seen on the obverse, and much less so on the reverse. Well struck with strong definition of all details. A lovely Gem of this popular issue with just a few graded finer by PCGS. Just a few tiny marks are noted on Liberty's arm, and are

invisible without magnification. Even with magnification, the surfaces are otherwise virtually mark-free leading us to wonder why the coin is only rated as MS-66. Close inspection is recommended, as this will best reveal the true value to be found in acquiring this particular example.

PCGS# 4599.

PCGS Population: 8; 7 (MS-68 finest).

From the 1853 Collection. Purchased privately from Julian Leidman, November 1993.

Gem Proof 1853 Liberty Seated Dime With Arrows



10016 1853 Arrows. Proof-65 (NGC). Pleasantly mirrored fields contrast with the sharp, distinctively satiny devices. Well struck, with boldly defined design elements and shallow wire rims around much of the circumference. Struck from clashed dies with artifacts of same seen in the right obverse field, and central reverse. All known specimens exhibit this clashing and it has been suggested that these Proofs were “accidental,” in that the polished fields were the result of die maintenance in an attempt to remove the clash marks. However, this would not explain the sharpness of the strikes seen on these coins. Walter Breen considered them Proofs, as have other specialists over a long period of years. Experts at both leading grading services are in agreement with their status and, if this were not enough, the historic sales data seems a confirmation. As discussed in the description of the Gem Proof offered above, it is interesting to study all of the Proof issues of 1853 together, as it reveals that the production standards, though seemingly more liberal than in other years, are consistent across the denominations. Nearly all of them fall short of the pristine products seen in other years, with visible die striations, clash marks and other anomalies being the norm. With this, the matter of “accidental Proofs” seems put to bed. These were almost certainly made at the same time for inclusion in sets, though we acknowledge that the dollar seems to have been excluded since those were struck in the mid-1860s.

Walter Breen has suggested a mintage of five specimens in Proof, which seems to be a reliable figure considering the specimens known. The impressive list of previous owners,

both suspected and confirmed, is given below. Walter Breen provided his chain of ownership in his *Complete Encyclopedia of United States and Colonial Proof Coins*, and some of the more recent appearances have been confirmed by plate matches. Those uncertain are identified as such below. This coin has appeared in some of the finest cabinets of the last century, confirming its great significance. When this coin last appeared publicly, in our Allen Lovejoy Collection sale, it was housed in an NGC holder, graded Proof-63. Since then, it has been resubmitted to PCGS and graded differently, but it is certainly the Norweb-Lovejoy coin, and a simple study of the plates confirms it. As rare as a Proof of this issue is, the grade is less significant than it might be for another more common issue. This one has not been offered publicly for nearly a quarter-century. The span between Norweb and Lovejoy was short, but the Norwebs owned it for more than 30 years. The track record suggests that collectors who secure this coin hold it, and the collector who does not buy one of the two examples offered in the present sale might well expect to wait a long time for another opportunity, perhaps a lifetime.

PCGS# 4742.

PCGS Population: 1; none finer.

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from Superior's Sale of October 2000, lot 4345.

The Earle-Norweb-Lovejoy Proof 1853 Dime



10017 1853 Arrows. Proof-62 (PCGS). CAC. Pleasantly mirrored fields contrast with the sharp, distinctively satiny devices. Well struck, with boldly defined design elements and shallow wire rims around much of the circumference. Struck from clashed dies with artifacts of same seen in the right obverse field, and central reverse. All known specimens exhibit this clashing and it has been suggested that these Proofs were “accidental,” in that the polished fields were the result of die maintenance in an attempt to remove the clashmarks. However, this would not explain the sharpness of the strikes seen on these coins. Walter Breen considered them Proofs, as have other specialists over a long period of years. Experts at both leading grading services are in agreement with their status and, if this were not enough, the historic sales data seems a confirmation. As discussed in the description of the Gem Proof offered above, it is interesting to study all of the Proof issues of 1853 together, as it reveals that the production standards, though seemingly more liberal than in other years, are consistent across the denominations. Nearly all of them fall short of the pristine products seen in other years, with visible die striations, clashmarks and other anomalies being the norm. With this, the matter of “accidental Proofs” seems put to bed. These were almost certainly made at the same time for inclusion in sets, though we acknowledge that the dollar seems to have been excluded since those were struck in the mid-1860s.

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PCGS# 4742.

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from the George H. Earle Collection; Henry Chapman's sale of the Earle Collection, June 1912, lot 3222; Holmlinbeck Coin Company's sale of June 1953, lot 1997; the Norweb Family; our (Bowers and Merena's) sale of the Norweb Collection, Part I, October 1987, lot 484; our (Stack's) sale of the Allen F. Lovejoy Collection, October 1990, lot 270. Possibly the specimen in the Mickley and Parmelee collections.

April 13, 1853

On April 13, Franklin Pierce's secretary of war, Jefferson Davis, writes to Colonel Ethan A. Hitchcock, commander of the Division of the Pacific:

“Sir,

“By an Act passed at the last session of Congress, of which I enclose a copy, the President is authorized to make five military reservations from the public domain, of not exceeding twenty five thousand acres each in the State of California or in the Territories of Utah and New Mexico, bordering on said State, with the view of removing the California Indians thereto for subsistence and protection.

“These reservations will be made subject to your approval by an officer whom you are hereby directed to detail for that purpose, in conjunction with the Superintendent of Indian Affairs in California, who will receive the necessary instructions from the Department of the Interior, and will report to you. You will please give such orders as will cause the selection to be promptly made.

“The reservations being for sites of military posts as well as for Indian settlements, should be located with a view to intercommunication and to accessibility from points of supply as well as with regard to their adaptation to the Indians; no only in their present condition, but also where they shall apply themselves to agricultural pursuits.

“In making the reservations it will not be necessary to locate each within the limits, exclusively of a single State or Territory, but it may be composed of continuous tracts lying in different territories, the whole constituting one body of the prescribed quantity of land.

Very respectfully, “Your Obt Serv,

“Jefferson Davis

“Secretary of War”

Superb Gem Mint State 1853 Dime With Arrows



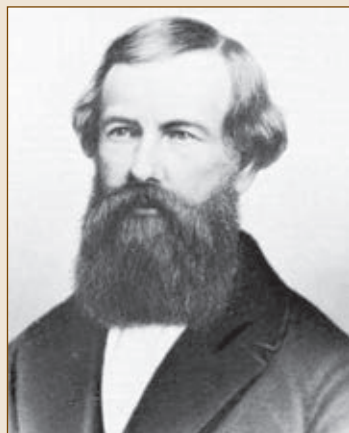
10018 1853 Arrows. MS-67 (PCGS). Boldly frosted surfaces with strong luster on both sides. The obverse is lovely light pearl gray at the center, with just a trace of soft golden brown toward the rims. The reverse is fully brilliant silver, with just a trace of patina on the rims. Well struck, but with a slight dishing of the denticles that is often seen on circulation strikes, standing in stark contrast to the definition seen on the Proof strikes. A couple of tiny marks are noted on the high points of Miss Liberty's leg, but the fields are

remarkably free of handling and the reverse is essentially pristine. While PCGS has graded four examples finer, this would be a great type coin for even the most discriminating collector.

PCGS# 4603.

PCGS Population: 16; 4 finer (MS-68+ finest).

From the 1853 Collection. Purchased privately from South Miami Rare Coins, December 1990.



*Elisha Otis and his invention,
the modern elevator*

Elisha Otis invented what would become the modern elevator in 1852 through his development of a braking safety system that prevented the fall of the car should the cables give way. During the Exposition of the Industry of All Nations, he demonstrated the functionality of this invention at the New York Crystal Palace in 1854. **Presumably, 1853 was a year devoted to perfecting his invention** leading up to the public display. In 1853, in the same city, Peter Cooper's Cooper Union Foundation Building was being designed (some accounts indicate that construction actually began in 1853). Cooper, presumably intimately familiar with Otis' developments, believed strongly enough in the new invention that he designed his building with an elevator shaft. Though the building was not completed for several years, it is believed to be the first structure to include an elevator shaft as part of the original design, though it was not the first to have a functioning one. That distinction goes to 488 Broadway, where one was installed in March 1857, prior to the completion of the Cooper Union Building.



Choice Mint State 1853-O Dime



10019 1853-O Arrows. Fortin-106. Rarity-4. MS-64 (PCGS). OGH. Light silver surfaces with flecks of russet and nuances of a deeper gray. Uniform satin texture with strong luster on both sides. Good definition of most central details, though there is softness noted on the lower wreath ribbons and the N of ONE. Rims are high and well formed, but the denticles are soft in places, and dished rather than fully executed. No major marks are seen on either side, and really any detectable handling is quite trivial. The surface quality is, in fact, very

choice. PCGS has graded only a single example finer than this one and the same is true of the coins graded by NGC. Clearly, Gems are great rarities and none have sold in recent memory. For a collector seeking a high-end example, this one is pretty much it.

PCGS# 4604.

PCGS Population: just 3;1 finer (MS-65).

From the 1853 Collection. Purchased privately from Joel D. Rettew, Jr., February 1992.



The pant-like dress for women designed by Amelia Jenks Bloomer, and since named "bloomers."

Bloomers were born in 1853, named for social reformer Amelia Jenks Bloomer who designed a progressive style of pant-like dress for women. She modeled them publicly in Hartford, Connecticut in July 1853 while delivering an address. She was interested in many progressive movements including women's suffrage, education, temperance and marriage laws, in addition to suggested edits to the ornate and confining standard attire for ladies of the 1850s. She published a periodical with articles on these issues titled *The Lily*, from 1848 to 1854.

The same year, another social reformer was inspired to take similar action. Susan B. Anthony was denied the opportunity to speak at an 1853 political rally because she was a woman. She is famous for her efforts toward women's suffrage and other equal rights.



*Susan B. Anthony c. 1855
Engraved by G.E. Perine & Co., NY*



Public relations portrait of Amelia Jenks Bloomer as used in the History of Woman Suffrage by Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Volume I, published in 1881.

QUARTER DOLLARS

Superb Gem 1853 No Arrows Quarter Among Finest Known



10020 1853 No Arrows. Briggs 1-A, the only known dies. Rarity-5+. MS-67 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. A superb original Gem with exceptional freshness and aesthetic appeal. Strong and radiant luster is seen on both sides, with lively cartwheels when the coin is rotated in the light. The surfaces are satiny and largely light pearl gray with faint rose and golden gray mottling on the obverse. The reverse exhibits somewhat deeper toning with pastel blue highlights and light olive. The overall visual aspect is light, however, with just enough toning to add warmth but not so much as to make the coin dark. The design is thus beautifully presented, and all elements are very nicely struck. The stars all show their centers while Liberty is fully developed. On the reverse, the eagle exhibits full feather detail and the same is true of the talons and arrow feathers. Even under magnification, the coin is easily deserving of the high grade assigned. PCGS has graded none finer than this one and only one other at this grade level. NGC has graded just one finer, a toned coin that at this writing has not been granted CAC approval.

While 44,200 coins were reported struck (according to Walter Breen, on two days only, February 7 and February 19) it is likely that many were melted after the new weight standard was enacted on February 21, 1853. All were struck from a single die pair, the obverse bearing strongly repunched date digits, 53. Years ago this was referred to as another 1853/2 variety, a tradition that remains in use for the gold denominations with similar die cutting anomalies. The repunching is clear on this coin.

In his offering of the 1853-O No Arrows half dollar in the 1885 sale of the J. Colvin Randall Collection, W. Elliot Woodward reflected upon the quarter dollar without arrows and rays: "The discovery of the quarter dollar is due to an interesting incident which occurred in this way; a broker was weighing a quantity of silver coins; the weight was found to surpass, by a number of grains, the value of the coins by count. After repeatedly weighing and counting, critical examination revealed the fact that one of the quarters weighed several grains more than any of the others, and gave to collectors a variety hitherto unknown. Diligent search, carefully continued for many years, has added to the piece first discovered possibly a dozen examples, — I think not more."

When we last sold this coin in 1954, we described it, in part, as follows: "One of the choicest uncirculated specimens we have ever handled. Has the full frosty mint surface. This coin is extremely rare especially in this condition. Has to be seen to be appreciated. It would not surprise us if this coin breaks all records." The entirety of this commentary remains true today, 60 years later.

PCGS# 5421.

PCGS Population: 2; none finer.

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from our (Stack's) Davis-Graves Sale, Part I, April 1954, lot 369; Dr. Kenneth Baer's Investor Group, to the present consignor.

Portland Eclectic - December 3, 1853

It is reported in the December 3, 1853 edition of the Portland Eclectic, of Portland, Maine, by way of the Cincinnati Gazette, "that a family of nine passed through Dayton, on their way to Iowa, on a freight train, and that at Bellefontaine, the family were weighed on a pair of scales, and 16 cents per hundred charged; a bill of lading was made out and given to the father, and the whole crowd with their furniture stowed in a freight car and locked up." We wonder about the report that might have appeared in the local Iowa papers upon their arrival!

Important Proof 1853 Quarter

Arrows and Rays Tied for the Finest Graded



10021 1853 Arrows and Rays. Proof-64 (PCGS). CAC. OGH.

Rich olive, rose and pale blue-green are pleasantly blended across the entire obverse, though Proof reflectivity shows through nicely. The rims, denticles and star centers are all nicely defined. The reverse is mostly deep rose and violet at the center, with rich blue iridescence through the legends. Again, the central device is sharply executed, and the rims are high and square with fully developed denticles. The fields show strong reflective qualities and are more intense toward the rims.

This coin is from the same dies as the Eliasberg coin (April 1997:1454), which was conservatively cataloged as a "Prooflike Gem." However, the coin realized \$71,500, a clear confirmation as to its wide acceptance as a Proof. Shortly after the sale of the Eliasberg coin, David Akers cataloged the John J. Pittman specimen similarly. He referred to it as a Proof initially, electing to follow its common acceptance as such, while clarifying in the text that he believed any coins struck in 1853 were "unintentional Proofs." Again, collectors followed traditional wisdom and the coin sold for \$99,000. As mentioned before in the present catalog, the coins of 1853 deemed Proofs today all share the characteristic that they are not as well made as most Proofs of the surrounding years, but they are certainly different from the circulation strikes. As a group they are fairly consistent in the qualities

that have caused them to be called into question over the years such as in the Eliasberg and Pittman cataloging 15 years ago.

In his *Encyclopedia of United States and Colonial Proof Coins*, Walter Breen reports the mintage of Proofs to be five specimens, and he enumerates three known to him at the time including this one, the Smithsonian example and the one formerly in the Jerome Kern Collection, which we now refer to as the Pittman coin. In his description of this coin, he comments that this piece is "drastically cleaned" which this coin is certainly not, leaving us to wonder if the earlier provenance given in his *Encyclopedia* is correct. It would seem that perhaps his records were confused. The Merkin sale appearance is referenced in our own past offering, and it is certainly the coin from our 55th Anniversary sale.

Whatever the case of the specific provenance prior to the Merkin sale appearance in 1968, Proof 1853 Arrows and Rays quarters are great rarities that few collectors will ever see. This one is a beautiful specimen, and PCGS has graded none finer. A prize of the 1853 Collection that will be a centerpiece rarity in the next collection it graces.

PCGS# 5548.

PCGS Population: 2; none finer.

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from R.F. Batchelder to Don Jensen, privately at the 1966 ANA Convention (per Walter Breen); Lester Merkin's sale of June 1968, lot 291; our (Stack's) 55th Anniversary Sale, October 1990, lot 1638; Kenneth Goldman; Julian Leidman.

The Magnificent Garrett Family 1853 Quarter

Arrows and Rays



10022 1853 Arrows and Rays. MS-66 (PCGS). A quick plate match confirms the provenance of this piece as the specimen once owned by the famed Garrett family. In our presentation of that sale in March of 1980, we described this coin, in part, as follows:

Full blazing original mint frost with just a hint of light golden coloring. In spite of a very tiny planchet flaw on the reverse rim above the second T of STATES, (it does not extend into the denticles or design), we have never seen a finer specimen of this issue, and we have only seen a few which can be called its equal. A superb, splendid, magnificent, superlative coin worthy of just about any adjective you might care to add." After more than three decades not a single bit of this needs revision. The coin

retains considerable brilliance with just a trace of golden brown toning and the mint luster is extraordinary. Very well struck with sharp details throughout. The eye appeal is truly exceptional, and the provenance would be difficult to improve upon. Just two coins have been graded finer by PCGS. While there are a few small marks on the obverse that keep this from a higher grade, in terms of visual appeal, we would offer anyone a friendly dare to compare this coin against other Gems that have appeared in recent memory. A superb example of this classic type coin.

PCGS# 5426.

PCGS Population: 8; 2 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from our (Bowers and Ruddy's) Sale of the Garrett Collection, Part II, March 1980, lot 659.

Mint State 1853/4 Quarter

Among Finest Known



10023 1853/4 Arrows and Rays. Briggs 1-A, FS-301. MS-64 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Almost fully brilliant with just a trace of soft gray toning in the right obverse field. Highly lustrous and very attractive overall with just a few trivial handling marks that account for the grade. Sharply struck through the centers and the peripheries. An early die state example with the overdate very clear. The artifacts from the recutting are bold around the digit 3, and above the rightmost arrow, as typical. On this brilliant high-grade coin, they stand out nicely. Smaller related features are seen around the digits 8 and 5 as well, but these fade as the dies wear, as do those around the 3. In the latest states, only the element above

the arrow shaft is reliable for identification. It is uncertain what exactly the mostly effaced elements were originally, but the broad vertical stroke seen behind the 3 has led to the obvious conclusion that it was a 4. Whatever it is, the variety is very popular with collectors and this one is one of the finest examples we have ever seen. Just one coin is graded finer, considering the data from both major grading services, and that by only one point. It would be hard to improve upon this example.

PCGS# 5427.

PCGS Population: 5; 1 finer (MS-65).

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from Heritage's sale of February 1993, lot 6003.



10024 1853 Arrows and Rays. Briggs 3-C—Obverse Cud Die Break—VF-30 (PCGS). Medium gray silver, somewhat deeper in the right obverse field and close to the peripheral devices. Traces of pale blue iridescence are also noted. A

large cud die break positioned prominently below the date makes this a visually interesting variety.

PCGS# 5426.

From the 1853 Collection. Purchased privately from Anthony Terranova, 2013.

Landmark 1853-O Arrows and Rays Quarter The Finest Known



10025 1853-O Arrows and Rays. Briggs 1-B. MS-66 (NGC). Bold satiny texture and suggestions of prooflike character give this piece striking visual appeal. It is highly lustrous on both sides. Light silver gray dominates the obverse, with soft golden brown, olive and steel mottling. The reverse exhibits nearly brilliant silver in some of the recesses, while other areas show rich olive and golden brown mottling. All central details are nicely struck with just a trace of softness on a few of the reverse denticles. Very original, very beautiful, and extremely rare in high grade. At the time we last sold this coin as part of the Eliasberg Collection in 1997, it was considered hands down the finest known and it was the only Gem graded. Now, there is one record at MS-65, just below this one, but it remains the only one graded at this level by NGC or PCGS. Taking into consideration the fine provenance back to 1906, it is clear this piece has no equal among survivors from the mintage of well over 1.3

million coins. Most survivors tend to be in low grades. As coin collecting was not popular at the time around New Orleans, coins released there tended to be circulated and not saved by collectors. Furthermore, at the time collectors usually sought only the different dates, and not mintmarked coins, so the vast mintages from Philadelphia were more likely to end up in collectors' hands. In the present case, more than ten times the number of quarters struck in New Orleans were produced at the Philadelphia Mint in 1853. An exceptional coin for the finest of cabinets.

PCGS# 5428.

Combined PCGS and NGC Population: just 1; none finer.

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from the Dixie Land Collection, sold by Geoffrey Charlton Adams, November 1906; John H. Clapp; Clapp Estate, 1942, to Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr.; our (Bowers and Merena's) sale of the Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection, April 1997, lot 1455; Superior's sale of September 2002, lot 871.

HALF DOLLARS

The Famous 1853-O No Arrows Half Dollar

Ex: Colin E. King, 1892

One of Just Four Known



10026 1853-O No Arrows. WB-NC-1, the only known dies. Rarity-7+. Good-6 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. 199.6 grains, per previously published accounts. Deep steel gray with subtle overtones of blue and olive dominating both sides, while bright silver outlines are seen around the central devices. All major obverse elements are bold for the grade, with the rims completely full and denticles complete all around. Traces of the outer letters of LIBERTY can be seen under magnification. The reverse was not struck as well peripherally, resulting in softness at the rims, but the upper edges of only one or two letters are beginning to fade. Otherwise, they are all full. We offer the surface description more for tradition than anything. As with any prized object, the condition begins to diminish in significance as the piece gets rarer. Few will ever have the opportunity to own an example of this rarity and acquiring any example would be a landmark accomplishment for any collector.

This issue is among the most challenging to acquire, not just among coins of 1853, but among Liberty Seated half dollars, as well as all Liberty Seated coinage, with just a couple of notable exceptions. It is worth nothing that the Eliasberg Collection was completed through the purchases of two Liberty Seated issues from Abe Kosoff's sale of the Adolphe Menjou Collection in June 1950. Mr. Eliasberg acquired his 1853-O No Arrows half dollar at the auction, after traveling to California from Baltimore for the sole purpose of purchasing that piece along with the unique 1873-CC No Arrows dime. Unfortunately for him, he was outbid for the dime and was so disgusted by the affair that he left the sale. Joseph Stack, realizing that Mr. Eliasberg still needed the half dollar, bought it for him and transferred it to him shortly after the auction. The collection was completed on November 7, 1950, with the purchase of the missed dime. It is quite remarkable that after decades of aggressive collecting supported by the financial means to compete for anything needed, this coin eluded him until the end. So many great rarities are necessary for a complete collection of United States coins, but the 1853-O No Arrows half dollar was the next to last coin acquired.

At the time Eliasberg bought his example, there were only three known examples. One was held in the collection of the Garrett family, and had been there for the better part of 100 years. The other known coin was the one offered presently, and it had not sold publicly since 1892, when it was cataloged by the Chapman brothers in their Colin E. King Collection sale. When we sold the Eliasberg coin in April of 1997, there were still just three pieces known, and we described the importance of the issue in that catalog, in part, as follows:

"The 1853-O half dollar without arrows on the obverse or rays on the reverse is one of the legendary rarities

of American numismatics. With only three specimens known, it has few peers anywhere in the American series. All but a few of the great specialized half dollar collections formed in past decades have lacked an example. The variety was not generally known to numismatists until the 1880s. The rarity of the issue precluded its inclusion in major cabinets up to that time.

"In 1885, in his offering of J. Colvin Randall's specimen of the 1853-O half dollar without arrows and rays (now known as the Garrett specimen), the cataloguer, W. Elliot Woodward, presented the first expanded discussion and appreciation of the variety to appear in print, as his Lot 421:

" '1853 No. 1; without arrows; Orleans [sic] Mint. I consider this coin the Gem of Mr. Randall's whole collection. It belongs to the regular series of United States coins, and is undoubtedly unique. I am well aware that other specimens are claimed to exist, but one which has long passed unchallenged is now admitted by the owner to be an alteration. The older collectors will remember that, in 1853, the par of silver surpassed that of gold. Silver was purchased at a premium and exported at a profit. Finding that the country was rapidly being drained of all its silver coin and bullion, the government retained the old weight for standard dollars, reduced the weight of all its minor silver coinage, —the half dollar being made to weigh 192 grains, and all the other coins in proportion. This change was marked by placing an arrow-point at the right and left sides of the date, and the eagle on the reverse was surrounded by a glory of rays; these peculiarities then appearing for the first time.

"The dimes and half dimes without the arrows and rays, though scarce, are not of infrequent occurrence. The quarter dollar, though occasionally found, is of excessive rarity... Reverting to the half dollar; I may say this sample weighs 201 grains, 12 grains more than the alteration originally referred to, and 9 grains more than the coin authorized by the Act of 1853. This piece, though it has been circulated for a long time, is still in good condition, and may be fairly described as Very Fine for a coin so old and rare.'

"In his 1893 treatise, Mint Marks, Augustus G. Heaton commented: 'If the judgment of several authorities is well founded, there is a variety of the 1853-O Without Arrows and Rays similar to the quarter of the Philadelphia Mint, but never known in the half dollar coinage of that institution, which takes a bound at the highest place among mintmarked rarities. Such a piece has been purchased as genuine for considerably over \$100. It was found in the West. We are disposed to recognize the possibility of such a variety.'"

Moving forward more than a century, noted Liberty Seated half dollar specialist Bill Bugert (with edits and



consultations from specialist Randy Wiley) comments in his 2011 *Register of Liberty Seated Half Dollar Varieties*, Volume III, that this issue is “one of the rarest of all United States issues. Only three are known; they appear on the market infrequently...”

Known Specimens

We were very fortunate to be in the spotlight for our August 2012 ANA auction presentation of the newly confirmed fourth example of this great rarity, the first one to be discovered since 1909, now known as the Howell Specimen, named for the family that revealed it. The roster of the four known examples, in order of discovery, is given below:

1 - The Randall-Garrett Specimen. VF-35 (PCGS)

J.W. Haseltine, prior to 1881.
J. Colvin Randall (W. Elliot Woodward's 77th Sale, 1885, lot 421)
Harold P. Newlin
T. Harrison Garrett
John Work Garrett
The Johns Hopkins University
Our (Bowers and Ruddy's) sale of the Garrett Collection, Part I, November 1979, lot 339
David Queller
Our (Stack's) sale of the Queller Collection, October 2002, lot 530
George Byers
Our (Stack's) sale of the George Byers Collection, October 2006, lot 1160
Private Collection

2 - The King Specimen. Good-6 (PCGS) (The present example)

Colin E. King Collection Sale, Chapman brothers, April 1892, lot 854
Colonel E.H.R. Green
Our (Stack's) Anderson-DuPont Sale, November 1954, lot 2143
Our (Stack's) Empire Sale, November 1957, lot 1394
Hollinbeck Coin Company (Art and Paul Kagin)
Our (Stack's) R.E. Cox, Jr. sale, April 1962, lot 1928
Our (Stack's) E. Yale Clarke sale, October 1975, lot 289
Julian Leidman
Roy Ash
Leon Goodman

Julian Leidman
Jules Reiver
Julian Leidman
Jonathan Kern
Charles Barasch
New England Collection
Charles Barasch
Julian Leidman
Kenneth Goldman
South Florida Rare Coins
Private Collection

3 - The Eliasberg Specimen. VG-8.

H.O. Granberg Collection (Exhibited by him at the 1911 ANA Convention)
William H. Woodin
Waldo C. Newcomer
B. Max Mehl
Col. E.H.R. Green
Charles M. Williams Collection
Numismatic Gallery (Abe Kosoff and Abner Kreisberg)
Sold in the “Adolphe Menjou Collection” sale, 1950
Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr.
Our (Bowers and Merena's) sale of the Eliasberg Collection, April 1997, lot 1955.

4 - The Howell Specimen. VG-8 (PCGS)

Our August 2012 ANA Sale, lot 11447.

Recent research by Richard Kelly and Nancy Oliver, published in their March 26, 2011, *Coin World* article titled “Curious Origin for 1853-O Without Arrows and Rays Halves,” reveals that these coins were actually struck beginning on January 1, 1853. It is not known how many were made, nor has it ever been confirmed what happened to the mintage, though there are various theories. What is interesting in the scope of the 1853 Collection, however, is this published contemporary confirmation that coining of this denomination in the New Orleans Mint was active as of the very first day of the year.

PCGS# 6270.

PCGS Population: 1; 2 finer (VF-35 finest).

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from the Chapman brothers' sale of the Colin E. King Collection, April 1892, lot 854; Colonel E.H.R. Green; our (Stack's) Anderson-DuPont Sale, November 1954, lot 2143; our (Stack's) Empire Sale, November 1957, lot 1394; Hollinbeck Coin Company (Art and Paul Kagin); our (Stack's) R.E. Cox, Jr. sale, April 1962, lot 1928; our (Stack's) E. Yale Clarke sale, October 1975, lot 289; Julian Leidman; Roy Ash; Leon Goodman; Julian Leidman; Jules Reiver; Julian Leidman; Jonathan Kern; Charles Barasch; New England Collection; Charles Barasch; Julian Leidman; Kenneth Goldman; South Florida Rare Coins.

Superb Proof 1853 Arrows and Rays Half Dollar

Ex: Congressman Jimmy Hayes



10027 1853 Arrows and Rays. Proof-64 (PCGS). CAC. Secure Holder. A beautiful example of this very interesting and very rare Proof. The surfaces exhibit nearly full silver brilliance. Just a trace of soft champagne toning and nuances of pale blue on areas of the peripheral devices are seen in certain light. The devices are bold, with pleasant satin frost, and stand out nicely against the fields. While there is certainly good reflectivity in the fields, they do not show the smooth and essentially pristine glasslike texture seen on most brilliant Proofs. Here, there is considerable evidence of die polishing and grinding on both sides. The obverse is more reflective than the reverse and light striations, mostly vertical, are seen across the fields. The reverse exhibits abundant die polishing marks, seemingly in random directions, resulting in a very lively and lustrous appearance, with small areas of reflectivity. Sharply struck with strong definition of the highest design elements, though some of those in lower relief, such as parts of the reverse rays, have been noticeably weakened by the extensive die work. The star centers are full, Liberty is fully developed, the feathers and talons of the eagle are complete and the letters of the legends are nicely squared off. The rims are also nicely finished, though the dies were slightly misaligned at the time of the impression and a prominent, thick wire rim is seen around part of the reverse circumference.

This rarity was missing from the great specialized collections of half dollars sold in recent memory. James Bennett Pryor, the Queller family, Douglas Noblet, George Byers, Dick Osburn and Richard Jewell had

wonderful collections, but none included this issue in Proof. In fact, having one aligns a collection with the likes of the Norweb family and Louis Eliasberg, as both collections included nice examples. This coin was once part of the collection of Congressman Jimmy Hayes, long recognized for its amazing overall quality.

It is estimated that just five to eight examples are known, and one of these is in the National Collection at the Smithsonian. This one is particularly lovely for its quality and brilliance. When it last appeared for sale in Superior's G. Lee Kuntz catalog, it was provenanced to the J. Hewitt Judd Collection in error. The Judd coin has an obvious reverse toning streak, and that coin was sold by us in our 55th Anniversary Sale, October 1990:1651. It was cataloged as "Another beautiful coin from the J. Hewitt Judd Collection" and as "Easily identifiable as the Judd coin by various areas of toning." When we sold the present coin as part of the Jimmy Hayes Collection in our 50th Anniversary sale, October 1985, we described it, in part, as follows: "Virtually a twin to the Lenox Lohr example we sold in 1956, and the Hawn piece we sold in 1973 (toning about the edges). Light golden toning and exceptionally attractive." None of this has changed in the least over the last three decades. A delightful coin, a great rarity that is fascinating to contemplate.

PCGS# 6405.

PCGS Population: 2; 1 finer (Proof-65 finest).

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from our (Stack's) sale of the Congressman Jimmy Hayes Collection, October 1985, lot 62; Superior's sale of the G. Lee Kuntz Collection, October 1991, lot 2090.

Lovely Gem 1853 Arrows and Rays Half Dollar



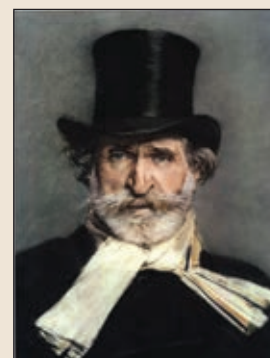
10028 1853 Arrows and Rays. WB-101. MS-65 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Bold pearlescent silver with soft champagne overtones and light golden brown mottling on both sides. There are outstanding cartwheels of luster and just a few trivial surface marks are seen under magnification. Well struck from somewhat aged dies that have started to fail. A well developed network of fine die breaks are seen throughout the stars, base of Liberty, digits of the date, and through the reverse legend. The aesthetic quality is excellent, typical of

the coins in this collection, and we are certain that this one would please even the most discriminating of collectors. A classic American type coin in full Gem grade, and always in demand.

PCGS# 6275.

PCGS Population: 13; 9 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the 1853 Collection. Purchased privately from Joel Rettew, Jr., May 1991.



Giuseppe Verdi in 1876 by Ferdinand Mulnier and announcements for two of his operatic works, Il Trovatore and La Traviata.

In May of 1858, Giuseppe Verdi wrote to a friend, "From Nabucco, you may say, I have never had one hour of peace. Sixteen years in the galleys." In this he was referring to his particularly prolific years between 1842, the year his Opera Nabucco premiered, to the date of the letter. In that span of 16 years, he premiered 20 different operatic works including two in 1853. His *Il Trovatore* premiered January 19, 1853, at Teatro Apollo in Rome, and *La Traviata* premiered March 6, 1853 at the La Fenice opera house in Venice.

Prooflike 1853-O Half Dollar

Arrows and Rays



10029 1853-O Arrows and Rays. WB-101. MS-64 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Mottled gray, rose and gold toning on both sides, with nuances of pale blue on the reverse and considerable lustrous silver showing through on both sides. Superb eye appeal. A very interesting coin to study.

The surfaces are treated differently on these dies than seen on many examples of the date, not terribly unlike several of the Proof issues for 1853 from Philadelphia. The fields have been polished on the die resulting in pleasing reflective qualities on both sides. The devices are very sharply executed, with a fine satin texture. On the obverse, evidence of sharpening is noted on all stars, and to a lesser degree other elements. There are crude die lines around the date digits and evidence of repunching. Liberty is noticeably sharp. On the reverse, prooflike character is seen though much of the field area, including within the shield recesses, giving the piece a lively appearance. Again, the devices are sharp and satiny, with all details of the eagle strong, including the talons and the arrow feathers, which

are often weak on this issue. The area around the lower rays is unfinished and granular, with a shelf-like outline. These characteristics, particularly the sharpness of the strike and prooflike nature, have led this piece and others like it to be referred to as possible Branch Mint Proofs in the past, though they were not counted as such by Walter Breen in his study of such issues published in his *Encyclopedia of United States and Colonial Proof Coins*. On the other hand, quite a number of New Orleans issues from this period have been similarly described, both before and after 1853. It is not beyond the realm of possibility that such pieces would exist for this year as well, and if the quality of manufacture seen on the accepted Proofs from Philadelphia is any indication, Branch Mint Proof pieces would like look a lot like this coin.

PCGS# 6276.

PCGS Population: just 7; one finer (MS-65).

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from the Norman Stack Type Coin Collection, and plated in his book on the subject; purchased privately from South Miami Rare Coins, February 1991.



Lieutenant William Lewis Herndon

United States Naval Officer, Lieutenant William Lewis Herndon, was given orders to explore the Amazon River, which he did during 1851 and 1852, and he **presented his full report to Congress in 1853**. This led to much greater understanding of the extensive system and began to open it to commercial pursuits. Later, taking a leave of absence from his Naval duties, he accepted the command of a Pacific Mail Company Steamer traveling between Aspinwall, Panama, and New York City, moving goods and people on one major leg of the journey by sea between the east coast and the gold fields of California. By 1857, the steamer had been renamed the S.S. Central America, and in September of that year it famously met with a severe storm and sank off the coast of South Carolina.

SILVER DOLLARS

The Magnificent Floyd Starr 1853 Proof Dollar

Finest Graded by PCGS



10030 1853 Restrike. Proof-66 (PCGS). CAC. A fabulous coin and another among many important rarities from the 1853 Collection. Rich blue and violet iridescence covers most of the obverse with traces of silver and rose in places. Additional spotted toning is seen left of Liberty, and somewhat through the folds of her gown. The central device is sharp and under magnification, a fine satin frost is evident throughout. The fields are boldly reflective. While this piece did not get the Cameo designation, if it were not for the lovely original toning, we suspect that the fields and the devices would be in pleasant contrast. Many fine die finishing lines are seen in the fields, and small spurs are noted along the rocky base below Liberty, as well as along her right arm (viewer's left), the mark of some haste in preparation of this obverse die for striking. The digits of the date are bold and large, while about half of the stars show their full central detail.

The reverse is satiny silver at the rims, while most of the remaining surface area is bold blue and violet, nicely matching the toning of the obverse and a testament to the originality of this coin. Some minor softness is noted in the strike on this side, at the upper edge of the eagle's right wing, and through the eagle's right leg. However, this is typical of the issue, and on this specimen all major elements are clearly defined, in contrast to other Proof examples of this date which exhibit very soft strikes.

At the last auction appearance of this coin, in 1992, it was called an "original" whereas now it is understood to be a "restrike" made at a somewhat later date. Many Proof Liberty Seated dollars dated 1851, 1852 and 1854 were struck using the regular Proof die for 1859, which is easily recognized by three lumps in the eagle's right wing, near the tip. In fact, all 1859 Proofs observed by us were struck by this die, so it seems that these easily recognized restrikes were likely struck in 1859 when the die was in active use, and at the ready. This piece was not struck by that die, easily leading one to the mistaken conclusion it is an original. In Walter Breen's *Encyclopedia of United States and Colonial Proof Coins*, he states that the 1853 dollars were struck using a reverse employed for Proofs of 1862 and 1863. We have not been able to confirm that, as we have not observed any such match. However, the reverse die does seem to have the character of dies used in the 1860s, and the first public mention of a Proof was in W. Elliot Woodward's sale of the John F. McCoy

Collection, May 1864. This said, the price realized in the McCoy sale suggests that it was not, in fact, a Proof, and Saul Teichman has published that the first real Proof to be sold was in the 1870s.

We strongly suspect that the die used for the Proof 1853 dollars (including the copper pattern in the present sale) is the same one that struck the famous and extremely rare 1866 No Motto dollars, as some of the key elements of identification seem to match. We state this with only minor reservation, as we have not had the opportunity to examine the coin alongside one of the 1866 dollars. In this we are relying upon memory, supported by detailed notes from our sale of one of the two known examples, alongside our recovery of the DuPont specimen a decade ago. Still, it seems probable and it is very intriguing, as we have never confirmed the use of that die for any other Proof Liberty Seated dollars.

It is believed that just 12 of these coins were struck in silver. Interestingly, the certified population reports for the date suggest that this figure is correct, though one must consider the possibility of resubmissions. NGC records include six grading events of Proofs, the finest coin being the brilliant silver Proof-66 * Cameo coin from the John J. Pittman Collection. One of the lesser coins was struck with the circulation strike dies and is of suspicious designation, though we have not examined it personally. PCGS has seven grading events in their records, including the offered example, which is the highest by two points.

Proof 1853 silver dollars are rarely seen and have been missing from even great collections, such as that of Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr., who owned a circulation strike to represent the date. This coin, provenanced to the famous Frederic Geiss Collection as well as to our own 1992 Floyd Starr sale, is certainly one of the two best, and for anyone who assigns value to complete originality, it is arguably the very best of the few that exist.

PCGS# 6996.

PCGS Population: 1; none finer.

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from the E.E. Lamb Collection; B. Max Mehl's sale of the Frederic W. Geiss Collection, February 1947, lot 350; our (Stack's) sale of the Floyd T. Starr Collection, October 1992, lot 597.

Extraordinary Gem 1853 Silver Dollar Candidate for Finest Known



10031 1853 MS-66 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. An exceptionally beautiful coin with pearlescent silver and champagne tones at the obverse center, with mottled deep golden brown around and lively accents of blue iridescence. The eye appeal is superb, and the lovely original toning is a perfect complement to the boldly lustrous surfaces. There is some softness noted in the strike, and though all major elements are satisfyingly defined, there are traces of original planchet texture seen at the highest points under magnification. A few scattered, tiny marks are noted for accuracy, but there is little effect to the overall appearance. In fact, it would be a challenge to find nicer looking No Motto dollar.

Though it is known that two obverse dies were made for the circulation strike coins of this date, we are aware of just one being used. It is easily identified by the “whiskers” at Liberty’s chin, which are actually heavy die lines. These were never removed in the finishing of the die in preparation for striking and similar elements are seen on other obverses of the period, including on certain Proof dies. The reverse is also that typically used for this date, and it is easily identified by heavy diagonal die lines in the recesses of the shield, and also vertical shield stripes that extend deeply into the crossbars. At least one coin from these dies has been called a Proof by a major grading service.

While this date has a comfortable rate of survival among Mint State No Motto issues (not including the

relatively “off-the-charts” 1859-O and 1860-O dollars that turned up in bag quantities in the 1960s), Gem survivors are great rarities indeed. Even the famed Eliasberg Collection example was called MS-62 in our landmark April 1997 sale. PCGS has graded just three pieces at the Gem level, two as MS-65 (including a prooflike one), and the present coin at MS-66, graded years ago. NGC has graded two coins as Gems, one MS-65 and one MS-66. If we assume that these are all different coins, which might be a bit of a leap of faith, that is only five coins from the original mintage of 46,110. Examples from this tiny handful of “finest” pieces are rarely offered for sale; the last Gem offered was the NGC MS-66 we sold in our July 2005 sale. The present coin was purchased privately in 1991, but seems to have not appeared publicly since our session of Auction ‘79, where it was described as: “A pristine Gem with a satiny surface. Golden and light iridescent toning. Certainly one of the finest extant.” Comparison of the present coin to the plate in our July 2005 catalog suggests that this coin is probably the finer of the two, but admittedly, without in-hand comparison, it remains open to debate. What is undeniable, however, is that the present piece offers superb aesthetic appeal and ranks as one of our very favorite coins among the numerous prizes of the 1853 Collection.

PCGS# 6941.

PCGS Population: just 1; none finer.

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from our (Stack’s) session of Auction ‘79, July 1979, lot 656.



10032 1853 EF-40 (PCGS). OGH. Light silver gray surfaces with much more retained luster than typically seen at this grade level. Essentially brilliant with just faint traces of toning. Struck from the typical circulation strike dies, with some fine die polish lines seen in the fields, where protected, and faint traces of prooflike character. The fields imparted by these dies when fresh are very prooflike, and at least one coin is encapsulated as a low-grade Proof by a major service. We are of the opinion, however, that a different die pair struck the true Proofs (and patterns) a few years after this coin was issued for circulation. Those dies were used on

both the silver example above and the Proof copper pattern seen later in the listings for the 1853 Collection in the present sale. The circulation strike reverse used here is easy to identify, with heavy diagonal (upward to right) striations in the shield recesses, and extensions of many vertical shield stripe lines into the crossbars above. These features are seen on many earlier Liberty Seated reverse dies, but much less so on coins of the later years.

PCGS# 6941.

From the 1853 Collection. Purchased privately from us (Bowers and Merena), November 1990.

GOLD DOLLARS



10033 1853 MS-65 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Exceptionally bold luster is complemented by rich orange gold toning with accents of rose. Close inspection reveals a razor-sharp strike, with superb execution of all design elements. A bit of light surface film is noted on the reverse at left. Virtually no

marks at all, and certainly none worthy of specific mention. A lovely example from the Philadelphia Mint.

PCGS# 7521.

From the 1853 Collection. Purchased privately from American Rare Coin Trading Group, December 1990.

Herman Melville anonymously published his famous short story, *Bartleby the Scrivener* in two editions of Putnam's Monthly Magazine, November and December 1853. He was paid \$55 for the first appearance and \$30 for the second. Unfortunately, in the same year a fire at Harper and Brothers Publishers destroyed the plates for all of Herman Melville's published works to that time, along with most of the first edition of his most famous work, *Moby Dick*. Also lost in the fire were all but about 20 copies of Dr. Elisha Kent Kane's 1853 book, *The U.S. Grinnell Expedition in Search of Sir John Franklin, a Personal Narrative*.

Mint State 1853-C Gold Dollar



10034 1853-C Winter-1. MS-62 (PCGS). OGH. A beautiful piece, well struck in warm honey yellow gold. Both sides have a pleasing, satin texture though there are traces of subtle reflectivity near the rims due to some incomplete die finishing in these areas. There are moderately heavy die polishing lines on both sides that contribute to the lively aesthetic. Areas of granular texture on both sides are as made. In his reference *Gold Coins of the Charlotte Mint, 1838-1861*, Doug Winter opens his commentary on the strike of this issue with, "This is the worst struck Type One gold dollar from the Charlotte Mint." Indeed, many show remarkable weakness at the central reverse and elsewhere, but this coin is a notable exception. The hair strands on Liberty are nicely delineated, and all star centers are sharp

on the obverse. The reverse shows only minor softness, perhaps best described as barely detectable. All olive leaves are clear, while the date is full and clear, and the letters of DOLLAR all well defined. The strike on these coins can be so bad that Doug Winter further comments, "...I have not seen very many that had a fully legible 18." Again, this coin is a bold exception, and it is better struck than the plate coin in Winter's book. Considering the very low population of coins graded finer by PCGS, it might prove very challenging to improve on it with a coin of any grade.

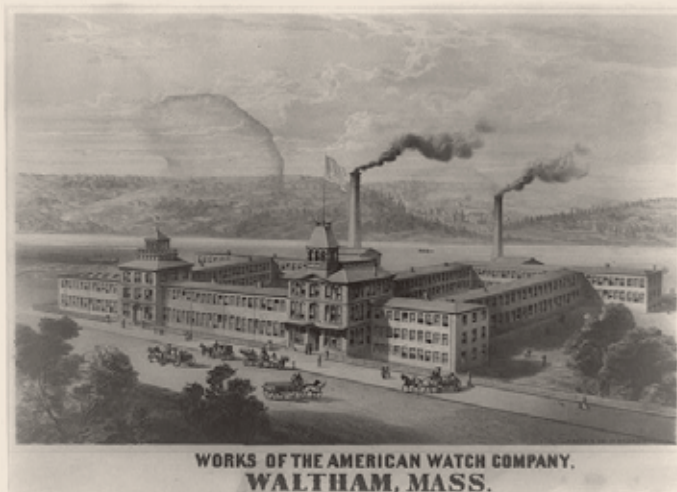
PCGS# 7522.

PCGS Population: 12; 4 finer (all MS-63).

From the 1853 Collection. Purchased privately from us (Bowers and Merena), November 1990.

The famous luxury watch company Tissot was founded in Switzerland in 1853. Perhaps most significantly, they introduced both the first mass-produced pocket watches the same year, which would become a staple of world-wide timekeeping until wristwatches came into vogue in the 1920s and 1930s. They also released the first watch to feature the time in two time zones. The addition of such complications such as dual time zones, or any one of many other possible functions are the highest challenges for mechanical watchmakers, and the development of one is always a landmark occasion for a watchmaker. Collector appeal and value rise rapidly the more complicated a watch movement is.

On the American front, what would later become the famous American watchmaker, American Waltham Watch Company, changed its name to Boston Watch Company in 1853, one of several changes that lead up to the introduction of its best known name in 1885. Also in 1853, they introduced their well-known line of movements named "P.S. Bartlett," after an early employee.



Waltham Watch Company, Library of Congress

Exceptional 1853-D Gold Dollar



10035 1853-D Winter 5-G, the only known dies. MS-62 (PCGS).

This is a truly outstanding example of this issue and one that should be seen in person by any serious potential buyer. The eye appeal is superb. The fields are intensely lustrous and verge on prooflike in places, a result of die maintenance apparently completed not long before striking this coin. The presence of a small lint mark on the right obverse seems confirmation of the same. The tone of the gold is rich, with inviting orange-red iridescence toward the rims. Close inspection reveals a little handling, which accounts for the grade, but the eye appeal is much better than one might expect. It is very nicely struck, and though the date can come well detailed as seen here, it can also be much softer.

When we last cataloged this lovely coin in 1994, we commented in part: "The Eliasberg, Norweb and Miles examples were only About Uncirculated; the DiBello and Wolfson coins, Extremely Fine." This historical perspective remains valuable today. Bringing it up to date a bit, we note that Harry W. Bass, Jr. owned four examples of the date, with the finest graded MS-61, none the equal of this coin.

As typical of these southern branch mint issues, the dies were not well finished before striking commenced and, as such, the finished products bear a crudeness that adds considerably to their charm. As a result, the fields exhibit numerous small die scratches and other imperfections, as made. Just one die pair is known to have struck the entire mintage of 6,583 pieces. Since the dies were produced in Philadelphia and shipped in very small quantities to the branch mints at Charlotte and Dahlonega, these branches needed to do their best to preserve die life and one of the ways to do that was to strike with lower tonnage to lessen the punishment to the die steel. If they broke irreparably, then it would take a long time for new dies to be transferred from Philadelphia.

One of the most aesthetically attractive examples of this date we have handled, and we expect that bidders will heartily agree.

PCGS# 7523.

PCGS Population: 4; 7 finer (MS-65 finest).

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from our (Stack's) sale of the James A. Stack, Sr. Collection, October 1994, lot 769.

A Second Mint State 1853-D Gold Dollar



10036 1853-D Winter 5-G, the only known dies. MS-62 (NGC).

Rich golden patina, uniform, and very visually appealing. Both sides exhibit bold luster and the reverse is slightly prooflike. This piece is struck slightly less well than the example offered above, with softness noted in the leaves of wreath's left side. Slight softness is also noted in DOLLAR and in the tops of the date digits. Still, most major elements are complete, as are the star centers on the obverse and a good portion of the hair strands, though they are soft at the

center. Struck on a nice planchet, without flakes or other imperfections sometimes seen on examples of this date. Overall a lovely example with no distracting marks and only trivial handling seen under magnification.

PCGS# 7523.

NGC Census: 13; 8 finer (MS-66 finest).

From the 1853 Collection. Purchased privately from Numismatic Consultants West, November 1992.

Gem Mint State 1853-O Gold Dollar

Among Finest Known



10037 1853-O Winter-1, the only known dies. MS-66 (PCGS). A visually striking Gem example of the date with strong cartwheel luster on both sides. Only the most trivial evidence of handling is seen upon careful inspection under magnification. A small lamination error, as made, can be seen in Miss Liberty's hair and coronet at IBE and is noted for the sake of accuracy. The surfaces are rich honey gold with nuances of rose that complement the other desirable surface qualities. Very mild softness is noted at the center of the obverse motif, while the opposing letters of DOLLAR and the date are all very well defined just like the remainder of the reverse design features. A very beautiful gold dollar and one of the finest known. PCGS has graded two other

coins at this level with none finer, while the records at NGC contain only a single coin rated higher than this one. No Gem Mint State example of this date has been sold since 2010, when an MS-65 last appeared at auction. There are no auction records for a coin graded this high in recent memory. A prize for a collector seeking a truly outstanding example.

PCGS# 7524.

PCGS Population: 3; none finer.

From the 1853 Collection. Purchased privately from the Avena Rare Coin Fund, November 1990.

QUARTER EAGLES

Gem Mint State 1853 Quarter Eagle

Repunched 18 in Date



10038 1853 Breen-6222. Repunched 18. MS-65 (NGC). A beautiful Gem with frosty luster and bold cartwheels on both sides. Fully brilliant and very attractive. A tiny mark is noted inside star 11, which identifies the desirable provenance of this coin, given below. Boldly repunched on the first two digits of the date, a variety called "very rare" by Walter Breen in his *Encyclopedia*.

PCGS# 7767.

NGC Census: 22; 1 finer (MS-66+).

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from our (Stack's) Alto Collection sale, December 1970, lot 459; our (Bowers and Merena's) sale of the Harry W. Bass, Jr. Collection, Part II, October 1999, lot 459; purchased privately from National Coin, November 1999.



- 10039 1853 MS-64 (PCGS).** Bright satiny yellow gold with bold luster. The reverse exhibits a bit of soft rose toning left of the eagle's head, and a tiny spot is noted. A very attractive piece. Identified on the PCGS holder as being from the Harry W. Bass Collection, but the lot number is unclear. Fine die lines

are seen on the reverse die, at the lower left, and a small but prominent lump is noted on the rim between stars 10 and 11.

PCGS# 7767.

From the 1853 Collection. Purchased privately from National Coin, November 1999.



- 10040 1853 MS-64 (PCGS).** Bright and mostly brilliant warm yellow gold with a trace of soft orange toning on both sides. Frosty surfaces are boldly lustrous and exhibit lively cartwheels. Struck from well-used dies, which is unremarkable considering the mintage this year, but the

dies show fine spidery cracks through the peripheries and evidence of clashing.

PCGS# 7767.

From the 1853 Collection. Purchased from Delaware Valley Rare Coins, December 1990.



Vice President William R. King

The Weekly Argus, of Albany, New York, reports in the Saturday, April 9, 1853, edition the following account: "we learn...from a gentleman who came passenger yesterday in the schooner Midas from Havana, that he visited Mr. King on the 13th ult...and found his health very much improved. Mr. King's friends felt great confidence that his health would be entirely restored in a very short time." Nine days later, Mr. William R. King, the newly sworn-in vice president of the United States, was dead from tuberculosis. He had been sworn in on March 24, 1853, and served just 25 days in office, though he never actually made it to the United States capital. He is the only executive official to have been sworn into office while on foreign soil, as he was in Havana, Cuba, at the time of the inauguration. His death left the vice presidency vacant, as it would remain until John Breckenridge was inaugurated on March 4, 1857.

Mint State 1853-D Quarter Eagle



10041 1853-D Winter 16-M, the only known dies. MS-61 (PCGS). Rich yellow gold with soft honey overtones on both sides. Highly lustrous and attractive. Close inspection reveals some light abrasions as one might expect for the assigned grade, noted by Doug Winter as a commonly seen condition of this date. However, where this date is concerned there are very few to be found better, as PCGS has only two records at the MS-62 level, and none finer. When Doug Winter published his most recent edition of *Gold Coins of the Dahlonega Mint*, his finest known coin was graded MS-61 by PCGS. The mintage was quite small,

with just 3,178 pieces struck from one known die pair, and Winter ranked the date as eighth rarest of the quarter eagle issues from this mint. It seems highly probable, then, that the population data is skewed a little by resubmissions, and clearly the grades of the best survivors are judged a little differently today. Still, the number of surviving Mint State coins is very small and just about any Mint State coin from this branch mint is highly prized by collectors.

PCGS# 7768.

PCGS Population: 6; 2 finer (MS-62 finest at both services).

From the 1853 Collection. Purchased privately from Ken Goldman, September 1997.



1853 Old Farmer's Almanac

The various almanacs for 1853 have interesting information to report. In the New England Almanac, it is presented that there will be three eclipses in the year. First, an annular eclipse of the sun, June 6th, in the afternoon; second, a partial eclipse of the moon, June 21st, in the morning; third, a total eclipse of the sun, November 30th in the afternoon. It is also reported that one should “expect a cold storm of snow” on December 21st, this, from an almanac published a year prior! Meanwhile, the The Old Farmer's Almanack recommends that one “begin the New Year by opening the door with the silver key of Hope, that it may close on the golden hinges of Prosperity.” It later provides interesting population data for the United States as of the last available year (1850), summarized as follows:

White Population: 19,668,736

Free Colored Population: 419,713

Total Free: 20,087,909

Slaves: 3,179,588

Interestingly, Anthony Bowen opened the first YMCA for African Americans in Washington D.C., on February 27, 1853, while 3,687 remained enslaved in the same city.

HALF EAGLES

Amazing Gem 1853 Half Eagle

The Second Finest Known



10042 1853 MS-65 (PCGS). CAC. Secure Holder. A magnificent Gem that we are delighted to be able to offer once again, after close to 20 years. When we last sold this piece in May 1995, it was part of the extraordinary Edward Milas Collection of No Motto U.S. Half Eagles, and that is where our present consignor acquired it. For those in the know, the name Edward Milas says it all. For those unfamiliar, his collection was sold as “the Finest Date and Mint Collection” in private hands. When the landmark Harry W. Bass, Jr. cabinet was revealed a few years later it was a game changer, as it certainly had greater depth and breadth across all U.S. gold series, and many very important coins. Still, the coins in the Milas Collection, in quite a few cases, were superior to the coins in the Bass Collection. This was quite an accomplishment on the part of Milas, as he likely had to compete with Bass for at least some of the best pieces he acquired. In 1995, this coin was presented as follows:

“1853 Gem Brilliant Uncirculated, with some claims to an even higher grade. Even, pleasing yellow gold in color. Both sides show full satiny luster across virtually flawless fields. Rather typical reverse strike. 305,770 were struck. David Akers writes regarding this issue: ‘Moderately scarce in any grade, the 1853 is actually very rare in strictly

uncirculated condition and virtually unobtainable in choice or Gem condition.’ Breen remarked ‘Very rare AU.’ Eliasberg’s was graded AU-55, Norweb’s was called MS-63, while the [James A.] Stack (1994) coin was BU. Possibly the Finest Known. NGC MS 65, none certified higher.”

The Norweb coin mentioned by our 1995 cataloger was acquired by Harry Bass. It was graded MS-63 (PCGS), and at the time of its sale (May 2000), it was the finest example PCGS had graded, and stood as the finest example in the Bass Collection, though he had multiples. So, this is one of the cases where Ed Milas’ coin was superior to Bass’ — indeed, quite a bit superior. At present PCGS has rated one coin finer by one grade point. The NGC data includes a lone MS-65, the present coin, with not a single one finer. This is a total of just two coins in the Gem category, making this the indisputable second finest, remarkable considering the original mintage of more than 305,000 pieces. Even though one piece has graded finer since this coin was last offered, it remains Condition Census #2, a world-class ranking for any coin.

PCGS# 8253.

PCGS Population: just 1; 1 finer (MS-66).

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from our (Stack’s) sale of the Edward Milas Collection, May 1995, lot 488.

Important 1853-C Half Eagle

None Graded Finer



10043 1853-C Winter-2. Late Die State. MS-64 (PCGS).

Secure Holder. A remarkable coin with beautiful deep rose and orange toning on both sides, a mark of totally original surfaces that is rarely seen today but very much in demand. Rich gold, highly lustrous surfaces and traces of reflectivity in the fields give this coin its outstanding aesthetic appeal. The overall quality is delightful. Some trivial scattered handling marks may be seen under magnification. The dies had been poorly maintained, and as a result fine striations are seen in places in the fields. Before Miss Liberty's throat, there is a series of small die filing marks, and elsewhere are seen patches of granular roughness, all from the original dies and as made. All but two of the star centers are fully developed, and there is some light weakness at the center of the primary motifs on both sides. It is often the case that the branch mint coins from Charlotte and Dahlonega were softly struck in an effort to preserve die life, and this worked for this reverse die until this pairing. It was used in 1852, and on another earlier pairing for 1853 before failing with a retained cud break at the lower reverse that is seen on this strike. This is a scarcer marriage, so it must not have lasted too long before the failure. Doug Winter commented that the discovery example was sold in 2008. However, this coin was in our January 1995 sale, and another example appeared in our offerings of the Bass Collection in 1999.

Back to the exceptional quality of this piece. For the sake of comparisons, the Eliasberg coin was called AU-50 in 1982, and while it might be graded higher today, it would not likely be anywhere near as nice as this coin. For



Commodore Matthew Perry

a more modern comparison, Harry W. Bass, Jr. owned six examples of this date, including one graded MS-64 by PCGS. That coin was the former Boyd-Bell-"Memorable"-Bareford-Milas specimen listed as finest known in Doug Winter's Census, and this coin is its equal. PCGS has graded just two at this level with none finer. NGC has graded none finer. The Bass specimen last appeared in our (Stack's) May 2008 sale where it set a new price record for this issue at just over \$51,000. This was the last opportunity to own this issue in the top assigned grade. While the strike of the Bass coin is slightly superior, the eye appeal from the rich original patina of this coin would be very difficult to surpass. Off the market nearly two decades. An important offering Charlotte Mint collectors who desire the very best.

PCGS# 8254.

PCGS Population: 2; none finer.

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from our (Bowers and Merena's) sale of the Commodore Matthew C. Perry Collection, January 1995, lot 1201.

After several failed American attempts to open up trade relations with the then "Closed Country" of Japan, Commodore Matthew Perry sailed for the country with a message from President Fillmore and the full intent of making progress where others had failed. **He arrived in Uraga Harbor on July 8, 1853.** After tense negotiations, supported by the threat to destroy the Japanese ships that had closed in on his vessels, the Japanese agreed to receive the letter from President Fillmore, and it was delivered to delegates of the Shogun on July 14. Perry left, but promised to return to receive the official response. Upon his return, in 1854, he came prepared for battle, and found that in similar preparation, Japan had constructed defenses in the harbor. However, in lieu of force, Perry was presented with a treaty that opened the doors of Japan to the West. Upon his return to the United States, Perry was awarded \$20,000 by Congress for his successes.

The Finest Known 1853-D Half Eagle

Ex: Harold Bareford-Ed Milas



10044 1853-D Winter 29-V. Large D. MS-64+ (PCGS). CAC.

Secure Holder. An absolutely magnificent coin that is the finest known of the date. Exceptional surfaces exhibit lovely mint frost throughout, disturbed by only a couple of small marks. Light greenish gold, with nuances of pale orange in places. Sharp central details are seen on both sides, with Liberty's hair curls well developed and the eagle's feathers full. Just a trace of softness is noted on the right talons and at the centers of the first four stars. Scattered die polish lines are seen on both sides, more pronounced on the obverse. Bold mint luster on both sides.

In 2003, Doug Winter estimated that perhaps 15 to 20 Mint State examples of this date have survived. Now, more than a dozen years later, the combined certified population reports for the date include 25 records, but it is likely that some upgrade attempts are skewing these numbers and most likely Winter's estimate is not far off. The offered example is a landmark among them, and is listed as Winter's CC#1 coin

As with the 1853-C half eagle offered above, even the Eliasberg coin was inferior to this piece and that coin had a provenance back to 1895, just 42 years after the coin was struck. It is now graded MS-63. The Norweb

Collection followed suit with an "AU-55." The Harry W. Bass, Jr. holdings, included a full dozen examples, the finest among them was graded MS-62 by PCGS, and it was the only Mint State example included. With the incredible resources and collecting drive that Mr. Bass enjoyed, it is remarkable anytime a coin such as this so easily eclipses his best acquisitions.

The last public offering of this coin was in our 1995 sale of the Edward Milas Collection. As noted above in our description of the Philadelphia Mint \$5 from the same collection, the Milas holdings were sold as "the Finest Date and Mint Collection" of Liberty Head No Motto half eagles in private hands. The fact that two coins from that amazing collection are included here speaks volumes of the tastes of the present collector. This coin sold for \$55,000 in that sale, nearly two decades ago, a figure that still stands as the price record for an 1853-D half eagle — another testament to the wonderful quality and importance of this coin. Any collection that includes this outstanding coin will be much finer for it.

PCGS# 8255.

PCGS Population: 1; none finer.

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from our (Stack's) sale of the Harold Bareford Collection, December 1978, lot 174; our (Stack's) session of Auction '84, July 1984, lot 1345; our (Stack's) sale of the Edward Milas Collection, May 1995, lot 490.

EAGLES

Magnificent 1848 Eagle

Tied for Finest Graded by PCGS



10045 1848 MS-64 (PCGS). CAC. An outstanding coin with exceptional eye appeal. One of the very finest circulation strike examples known of this date. One is struck immediately by the prooflike reflectivity in the fields on both sides, more pronounced on the reverse, the result of die maintenance. Sharp die polish lines are seen in the fields. This texture is seen on other high-grade coins of this date and mint, most notably some examples of the famous 1848 CAL quarter eagles. The texture of the devices is satiny, making them stand out visually from the fields. Beautifully struck. A few scattered marks are noted, accounting for the grade not being as high as the overall eye appeal might suggest. A small toning spot at the first S of STATES will serve to easily identify this piece in the future.

When David Akers wrote his important studies on federal gold coins, published in 1980, he noted five appearances of coins called “Uncirculated,” some of which could have been the same piece. He also wrote about the date, “Most known specimens are only VF or EF and strictly uncirculated examples are extremely rare.” This summed the situation up perfectly, as a scanning of auction appearances easily confirms.

What may be most remarkable about the 1848 in this grade is the list of collections that had far inferior

examples, or none at all. The lead among these is the Eliasberg Collection, which contained only an “EF-40.” The Garrett family, Virgil Brand, and the Norweb family also failed to acquire anything noteworthy for this date, illustrative of just how difficult it is to find. Harry W. Bass, Jr., the most aggressive student and collector of federal gold of our time, did find a lovely example graded MS-63 by PCGS from our sale of the exceptional James A. Stack Collection in 1994. The fabulous Bass coin has been resubmitted to PCGS in more recent times, but remains in a PCGS MS-63 holder, perhaps slightly skewing the population data for the date. PCGS has graded only one additional example MS-64, and that coin last appeared for sale in 2009. It does not seem to be quite as sharp as the present example, though it is close, and there is no mention of the prooflike character seen here. What is rather amazing about this coin, beyond the details of the piece itself, is that it was one of the very first coins purchased for what would become the 1853 Collection. Though the collector had yet to focus on 1853 only, this coin clearly demonstrates that his eye for outstanding quality needed no honing whatsoever, and the results are seen throughout the collection.

PCGS# 8599.

PCGS Population: 2; none finer.

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from our (Bowers and Merena's) Four Landmark Collections Sale, March 1989, lot 697; Ellesmere Numismatics, March 1990.

Choice AU 1853/'2' Eagle



10046 1853/'2' Breen-6509. AU-58 (PCGS). OGH. Highly lustrous with attractive rose and orange overtones. Well struck and very pleasing. The date is bold, and the artifacts traditionally thought to be an errant 2 beneath the 3 are clearly visible. There are similarities between certain elements of the 2 used in 1852 to the visible artifacts, but the positions would be incorrect. Additionally, a small artifact is seen just to the

lower right of the 1 digit. A curious, but well collected issue, seen here about as sharp as is ever encountered. Much nicer than those acquired by Harry W. Bass, Jr.

PCGS# 8611.

PCGS Population: 3; 2 finer, (MS-61 finest).

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from Heritage's Bullet Auction of January 1995, lot 565.

Choice Mint State 1853 Eagle Among the Finest Known



10047 1853 MS-64 (PCGS). Warm yellow gold. Nearly full mint brilliance, with just faint traces of honey gold toning. Satiny and highly lustrous. A well made coin, as typical of the Philadelphia Mint's output in this period. Sharply struck with nearly all details fully executed and just a trace of softness on a few of the stars, though each one shows its full center. Between both major grading services, just a single coin is graded finer, and this by only a fraction at MS-64+. The last three public offerings of this date in this grade were in 1995, 2007 and 2009. Notably, there were none during

the dozen years between 1995 and 2007, the time frame in which the Harry W. Bass, Jr. Collection was being dispersed, as he did not have one this nice. The offered coin would be difficult to improve upon, and it may quite some time before another opportunity arises to obtain one as nice as this one.

PCGS# 8610.

PCGS Population: just 3; 1 finer, (MS-64+)

From the 1853 Collection. Purchased from us (Stack's) through Joel Rettew, Jr., May 1992.

The Charter was granted to the United States Trust Company of New York on April 12, 1853, an entity still in business today under the name of U.S. Trust, now a subsidiary of Bank of America. On the same day in 1853, the New York Stock Exchange saw trading in the following stocks: two insurance companies; three banks; two coal companies; one canal company; two mining companies; 11 railroads and two miscellaneous companies. Bond exchanges were for U.S. Government bonds, along with three states, and three railroads.

High Grade 1853-O Eagle



10048 1853-O Winter-1. Repunched 53. AU-58 (PCGS). OGH. Without magnification, this coin looks Mint State, and not just barely. The surfaces are remarkably free of serious marks, standing in stark contrast to what Doug Winter has to say about the issue in general, referring to typical examples as “possessing deep abrasions in the field, which impair the luster.” Just a few tiny ones are noted below Liberty’s hair bun on the present coin. Upon closer inspection, there is little more to report beyond a few scattered faint hairlines that have likely been taken into consideration by the graders. This said, the coin might actually be technically Mint State in terms of actual wear, or lack thereof. Lovely light golden luster just slightly subdued by a light surface film. Still, the eye appeal is very nice and the value is excellent value as

the aesthetic quality is high for the assigned grade. A very rare coin in high grade. Historically about one to two examples assigned this grade appear for sale each year, but it has been 15 years since the last Mint State coin sold in our Harry W. Bass, Jr. sale, Part II. While graded only MS-61, it is considered the finest known. Considering Winter’s comments about this issue in general, this coin is an outstanding opportunity for anyone seeking a high quality example of this date from New Orleans.

PCGS# 8612.

PCGS Population: 14; just 2 finer, both MS-61.

From the 1853 Collection. Purchased privately from Numismatic Consultants West, November 1992.

DOUBLE EAGLES

Lovely 1853/2’ Double Eagle



10049 1853/2’ FS-301. AU-58 (PCGS). CAC. Bright yellow gold with strong mint luster on both sides and just the faintest trace of rub on the high points. Really, this is the perfect example of the grade. A few scattered nicks, but nothing distracts the eye on the obverse, while only a couple of abrasions in the reverse fields are noted. Sharp and aesthetically pleasing. The date is bold, and close inspection yields some clues to this “overdate.” While Walter Breen deemed it an 1853/2, along with a \$10 coin of the same date and, oddly, similar variety, it is no longer widely believed to be. This coin shows clear evidence of a smaller punch around the digits of the date. The stand of a smaller 1 is visible just above that of the finished 1, and close study reveals the top of the same digit within the larger one. Grinding of the die

is visible around the other digits, strongly at the 8 with no artifacts remaining. There is clear evidence of a smaller 5 within the larger digit, though somewhat obscured by the grinding, and the usual artifacts within the 3 are clear. Since the problem occurred with two denominations, perhaps a few date punches got mixed up and the wrong ones were initially used before the error was noticed and corrected on both dies. Either way, it remains an interesting and popular variety and this is a particularly nice example. PCGS has graded only seven coins finer and the best among them is just MS-61.

PCGS# 8909.

PCGS Population: 11; 7 finer (MS-61 finest).

From the 1853 Collection. Purchased privately from Julian Leidman, August 1992.

Mint State 1853 Double Eagle

Ex: John A. Beck-Harry W. Bass, Jr.



10050 1853 MS-62 (PCGS). An exceptionally bright and fresh coin for this vintage. Light honey gold with exceptional cartwheels of rich mint luster on both sides. Just the faintest traces of pale orange brown toning. The typical example of this date is notably worn, not even close to Mint State. More than 1.2 million coins were struck, but just six coins are graded finer than this one. Boldly struck and another

important opportunity from the 1853 Collection, this with an appealing provenance.

PCGS# 8908.

PCGS Population: 21; 2 finer, (MS-63 finest).

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from Quality Sales Corporation's sale of the John A. Beck Collection, Part II, February 1976, lot 546; our (Bowers and Merena's) sale of the Harry W. Bass, Jr. Collection, Part II, October 1999, lot 1695.

Beautiful Mint State 1853 Double Eagle

Repunched Date



10051 1853 Breen-7160. Repunched 3. MS-62 (PCGS). Exceptional honey-gold surfaces accentuated by exquisite cartwheels of luster on both sides. Nicely struck with only trivial softness on the highest points of the central motifs, while the peripheral details are complete and the stars show fully developed centers. The initial eye appeal of this piece is quite a bit better than the grade suggests. A few light marks may be seen under magnification, however, without it there is virtually nothing distracting. PCGS has graded only two coins finer than this superb example. The die variety shows

a clearly repunched 3 in the date, not to be confused with the "1853/2" variety which is quite a bit different. According to Walter Breen, this variety was discovered in the 1975 ANA sale, but the coin there is not identified as such, nor is the piece plated. Presumably, this was Breen's own discovery and recorded in his notes at lot viewing.

PCGS# 8908.

PCGS Population: 22; 2 finer (MS-63 finest).

From the 1853 Collection. Purchased privately from Dr. Richard S. Appel, April 1991.

Lovely 1853-O Double Eagle



10052 1853-O Winter-1, the only known dies. AU-55 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Generous mint luster is retained on both sides and traces of prooflike reflectivity are seen around the devices and in the protected areas. Pleasant mild golden brown toning is the mark of original surfaces. Well struck and offering nice eye appeal. The only softness worth noting is at the upper left of the mintmark, which is typical of the issue and is just a matter of the mintmark having been poorly punched into the die steel. Very rare in high grade. While AU coins are seen from time to time, Mint State coins are

very difficult to find and just five have been graded higher than AU-58 by the two major grading services. Therefore, nice AU specimens like this one are about the best collectors are likely to see without waiting a very long time. Putting it into better perspective, the Harry W. Bass, Jr. Collection included two examples, both graded EF-45.

PCGS# 8910.

PCGS Population: 25; 13 finer, just one of which is Mint State (MS-63).

From the 1853 Collection. Purchased privately from Dr. Richard S. Appel, June 1991.

PATTERN AND EXPERIMENTAL COINS

Very Rare 1850 Pattern Cent



10053 1850 Pattern Cent. Judd 124c-(formerly Judd-152a), Pollock-141. Rarity-8. Nickel. Plain Edge. Proof-65 (PCGS). CAC. Obv: The denomination CENT above, the date 1850 below, and rosettes to each side of a non-perforated center. **Rev:** The denomination ONE CENT within a laurel wreath.

Uniform light pewter gray with a few insignificant flecks on both sides. Nice luster and eye appeal. Well struck, though the dies were slightly misaligned as typical. As a result, this example has a high wire rim around part of the circumference. Some slight softness at the center of the denomination, which is not unusual for nickel or nickel alloy strikes as the metal is difficult to strike up. This issue,

distinctive for its simplistic design, was formerly cataloged with the 1853 issues, for the die it shares with those coins. However, it is believed to have been made for collectors and not truly a pattern issue of 1853, so the current editors of the Judd reference have assigned it a new number and placed it among the patterns of 1850, the date on the piece. Its true status as an original or restrike issue remains unclear. A rarity, according to the uspatterns.com website, just two or three examples are confirmed.

PCGS# 62306.

PCGS Population: 2; 1 finer (Proof-66).

From the 1853 Collection. Purchased privately from a Heritage Fixed Price List, March 1998.



- 10054 1853 Pattern Cent. Judd-149, Pollock-178. Rarity-6+. German Silver. Reeded Edge. Proof-64 (PCGS). CAC.** Obv: The same design that the Mint used to strike regular issue 1853 Liberty quarter eagles. Rev: The denomination ONE CENT within a laurel wreath; the same design used to strike the Judd-124c example offered above.

Medium steel gray with some traces of pale blue in the somewhat reflective fields. Sharply struck and quite attractive. An interesting pattern combining the standard

quarter eagle obverse design with a new one cent reverse. An interesting lack of precision is noted in the die work. The E of CENT was original punched much higher, then corrected. Strong artifacts of the earlier erroneous placement are clearly visible on this piece.

PCGS# 11622.

PCGS Population: 5; 1 finer (Proof-65).

From the 1853 Collection. Previously from our (Stack's) 1971 ANA Convention Sale, August 1971, lot 259; our (Stack's) sale of the William W. Moore Collection, March 1992, lot 1559.



- 10055 1853 Pattern Cent. Judd-150, Pollock-178. Rarity-7-. German Silver, Gilt. Reeded Edge. Thin Planchet. Proof.** Unc Details—Surfaces Plated (PCGS). The obverse and reverse designs are the same as described above for the Judd-149 example. Rich yellow gold surfaces with flashy luster. Brushed surfaces, but likely part of the finishing of the piece after addition of the gilt. PCGS does not recognized gilt patterns as a matter of policy, since it is essentially

impossible to determine if such treatment is done at the Mint or later. Historically such patterns have appeared in great collections, as this one. **Proof-63.**

PCGS# 11626.

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from J.C. Morgenthau & Co.'s sale of June 1942, lot 30; New Netherlands Coin Company's 61st Sale, June 1970, lot 4; our (Bowers and Merena's) sale of the Harry W. Bass, Jr. Collection, Part I, May 1999, lot 1006.

May through December, 1853

An outbreak of Yellow Fever struck the city of New Orleans in May of the year. Case numbers were small at the beginning, but the public reporting of them was even smaller, having been partially kept at bay by city authorities to avoid spreading panic and harming thriving business interests in the city. By the time the epidemic was fully developed, the perilous situation was clear and people left the city in large numbers anyway. It is believed that the total fatalities from the epidemic approached 10 percent of the population of New Orleans, and it became a political

touchstone, similar to the situation that unfolded in the same city in the aftermath of the devastating hurricane Katrina in 2005.

The September 1, 1853 edition of Washington D.C.'s Daily National Intelligencer reported this on the status of the epidemic, "New Orleans, August 29—The weather to-day is bad for the sick, and it is feared that the reports for to-morrow will show an increase. The deaths for the twenty-four hours ending this morning were 185, of which the yellow fever mortality was 159, four more than yesterday's report. It is estimated that not more than fifteen thousand unacclimated persons remain in the city."



10056 1853 Pattern Cent. Judd-150, Pollock-178. Rarity-7-. German Silver. Reeded Edge. Thick Planchet. AU-55 (PCGS). OGH. The obverse and reverse designs are the same as those of the Judd-149 example offered above. Pale gray surfaces with traces of light blue iridescence. A bit handled with a small scratch noted in the left field. Not quite the quality typical of the 1853 Collection, but an important

part of this particularly extensive offering of the pattern cents of 1853.

PCGS# 11624.

PCGS Population: 1; 10 finer (Proof-65+ finest).

From the 1853 Collection. Previously from Heritage's 1993 ANA Sale, July 1993, lot 7735.

Gem Proof 1853 Cent Pattern

From the Bass Collection



10057 1853 Pattern Cent. Judd-151, Pollock-178. Rarity-6-. Nickel Alloy. Reeded Edge. Proof-65 (PCGS). Struck using the same obverse and reverse designs described above in our offering of the Judd-149 example in the 1853 Collection. Medium pewter gray with nice reflectivity and nuances of pale blue in certain light. Sharply struck and pleasing. A few minor spots are noted, seemingly unchanged since our last

offering of this coin 15 years ago. From one of the greatest pattern cabinets ever formed.

PCGS# 11628.

PCGS Population: 2; 1 finer (Proof-66).

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from Brinton T. Schorer, May 1973, to Harry W. Bass, Jr.; our (Bowers and Merena's) sale of the Harry W. Bass Jr. Collection, Part I, May 1999, lot 1005.



- 10058 1853 Pattern Cent. Judd-151, Pollock-178. Rarity-6-. Nickel Alloy. Reeded Edge. Proof-62 (PCGS). CAC. OGH.** The obverse and reverse designs are the same as those described above in our offering of the Judd-149 example. Pewter gray, with light striated toning visible on both sides. Some underlying reflectivity in the fields. A scratch is noted

along Liberty's throat, but is not likely to be noticed without magnification.

PCGS# 11628.

From the 1853 Collection. Purchased privately from South Miami Rare Coins, February 1991.



- 10059 Undated (1853) Pattern Cent. Judd-151c, Pollock-180. Rarity-7-. Copper-Nickel. Plain Edge. Proof-64 (PCGS). CAC.** Obv: Blank apart from dentils around the border. Rev: The denomination ONE CENT within a laurel wreath. Pleasing light golden brown surfaces with areas of striated toning. The striations, or "wood grain" effects result from the imperfectly prepared alloy that is often seen on coins

of this composition, both patterns and regular small cents. Pleasing satiny luster and only a few scattered marks under magnification.

PCGS# 62413.

PCGS Population: 2; 1 finer (Proof-65).

From the 1853 Collection. Purchased privately from Marin Numismatics, March 1993.

In the spirit of experimentation that leads to any good invention, the pages of Scientific American for the year 1853 include many diagrams of interesting inventions and improved pieces of equipment for all sorts of tasks. Among some of the more interesting are an improved seed planter; Tewksbury's life-boat; cast-iron pavements; Ericsson's caloric engine; a mortising and boring machine; a steam pump and fresh water condenser; a submarine mortar frigate; an improved apple paring machine; a machine for reducing metallic bars, a machine for double seaming; an improved machine for drying cloth; a hydrostat for steam boilers; a ditching and fencing plow; an atmospheric tube telegraph and

railway; dioptric crystal lenses; Eli Whitney's repeating pistol; a machine for washing bottles; an improved encircling suspender; a machine for cutting veneers; Mascher's stereoscope; a self-feeding furnace; a ship's speed indicator; an improved machine for dressing hemp; a steam rock drill; an India rubber washing machine; Marks' artificial leg; a quartz pulverizer [sic], washer and amalgamator; Swan's melodeon; a burglar's alarm clock; Parker's tobacco pressing machine; Swett's elevated railroad for Broadway in New York; a portable steam engine; a self-waiting dining table, among many other fascinating objects and ideas. A study of the pages is a truly fascinating endeavor.



10060 Undated (1853) Pattern Cent. Judd-151c, Pollock-180. Rarity-7-. Copper-Nickel. Plain Edge. Proof-64 (PCGS). CAC. A duplicate of the above with faintly striated toning over satiny and lustrous surfaces. Traces of reflectivity are noted in the protected areas and the surfaces are also a bit lighter in those areas. Nicely struck and very pleasing. Remarkably, only about a half-dozen examples are believed

to be known, but two lovely pieces are included in the 1853 Collection.

PCGS# 62413.

PCGS Population: 2; 1 finer (Proof-65).

From the 1853 Collection, earlier from our (Bower's and Merena) Sale of March 2001, lot 1001.



10061 Undated (1853) Pattern Cent. Judd-151c, Pollock-180. Rarity-7-. Copper-Nickel, Gilt. Plain Edge. Proof. Unc Details—Surfaces Plated (PCGS). A second duplicate of Judd-151c, although in this case gilt and displaying light olive-gold with attractive mottled pastel iridescence. Some light abrasions on the plain field of the reverse. Nicely struck and attractive overall. As noted in the description of the other gilt pattern offered above, PCGS does not recognize

gilt patterns as a matter of policy, since it is essentially impossible to determine if such treatment is done at the Mint or later. However, many such pieces have appeared in great collections. **Proof-62.**

PCGS# 62413.

From the 1853 Collection. Purchased privately from us (Stack's), May 1992.

On Thursday, April 14, 1853, the Vermont Watchman & State Journal has the following report on the Coinage for March: "The Treasurer of the Mint at Philadelphia publishes his monthly account of the coinage for the month of March, viz:

Gold	—248,233 Double Eagles
	—108,406 Quarter Eagles
	—458,133 Gold Dollars
Silver	—5,460,000 Three-cent pieces
Copper	—403,376 Cents
	—19,500 Half-cents

The gold bullion deposited during the month was, from California, \$7,440,000; from other sources, 70,000. The silver bullion deposited was \$22,000.

The Philadelphia Ledger says no silver was coined, in anticipation of action under the new coin bill. By the middle of the present month the new halves, quarters, and other fractions of the dollar, it is expected, will be ready for delivery.



- 10062 Undated (1853) Pattern Cent. Judd-151d, Pollock-181. Rarity-7-. Billon. Plain Edge. Proof-64 (PCGS). CAC.** The design is the same as that of Judd-151c, as described above. Light silver gray with attractive pale gold, blue and deep gray mottling on both sides. A few faint marks seen under magnification, but this really is a lovely piece. Very few are graded. PCGS has five grading records in their population

data, including two coins at this level (remarkably both in the present sale), and two finer.

PCGS# 62409.

PCGS Population: 2; 2 finer (Proof-65 finest).

From the 1853 Collection. Previously from our (Bowers and Merena's) ANA Sale of August 2000, lot 4073.



- 10063 Undated (1853) Pattern Cent. Judd-151d, Pollock-181. Rarity-7-. Billon. Plain Edge. Proof-64 (PCGS). CAC.** Another example of this scarce pattern issue, and one of just two examples graded Proof-64 by PCGS, both in this sale. Pleasing deep gray surfaces with olive brown overtones.

Very sharply struck. A lovely example of this scarce pattern.

PCGS# 62409.

PCGS Population: 2; 2 finer (Proof-65 finest).

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from Empire Coin Company; Heritage's New York ANA Sale of August 1997, lot 7239.

The firearms manufacturer Smith & Wesson was formed in 1853 through the partnership of Horace Smith and Daniel Baird Wesson. Their earliest success came with a system for repeating rifles, and they sold the patents to another firm that would later become Winchester Repeating Arms Company. Smith and Wesson temporarily went separate ways, but returned to partnership in 1857 and manufactured improved repeating pistol designs. These were a success and by 1860, they had around 600 workers engaged in the manufacture of firearms with the Smith & Wesson name.



Daniel Bair Wesson, co-founder of the famous firearms manufacturer Smith & Wesson.



10064 Undated (1853) Pattern Cent. Judd-151d, Pollock-181. Rarity-7-. Billon. Plain Edge. Proof-63 (PCGS). CAC. A third example of this scarce pattern. Surfaces mottled with tones from bright silver around the devices to olive with nuances of blue. Struck on a slightly clipped planchet, the resulting “pinched” effect on the rim visible at 4:30 on the obverse. A nicely provenanced example.

PCGS# 62409.

PCGS Population: 1; 4 finer (Proof-65 finest).

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from the Major Lenox Lohr Collection; to Empire Coin Company; to a private collector circa 1961; our (Bowers and Merena's) sale of the Herbert Spencer Collection, June 1996, lot 1173.



Heinrich Engelhard Steinweg, a German, born in 1797 and a survivor of a challenging childhood, happened upon work as a carpenter at the age of 25. Apparently he found himself skilled with fine work and later endeavored to refine his skills by taking an apprenticeship to an organ builder. He embraced the new work. He developed a love for musical instruments and began to build various instruments on his own, constructing his first piano in 1835. In 1850, he left Germany and sailed to New York City, where three years later, in March 1853, he would establish, with his sons, what would become the most famous piano manufacturer in the world, Steinway & Sons.

*Heinrich Engelhard Steinweg,
a.k.a. Henry Steinway*

The Eliasberg 1853 Silver Dollar Pattern Struck in Copper



10065 1853 Pattern Liberty Seated Silver Dollar. Judd-154 Restrike, Pollock-183. Rarity-7+. Copper. Reeded Edge. Proof-64 RB (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Struck from regular issue dies. An exceptionally attractive example of this very rare off-metal strike. Lovely rose and violet iridescence are blended across both sides, pleasantly accenting the otherwise rich chocolate brown copper. Good reflectivity is seen in the fields, while the devices are satiny and lustrous. A small mark on Liberty's thigh is really the only one worthy of mention. What appear to be other small marks are in most cases struck in, and as made. This piece was struck by the same dies used to produce the silver Proof example in the present sale and, as noted in that description, the reverse die seems to have been the one used to strike the famous 1866 No Motto dollars, though without the opportunity for side-by-side comparison we state this with slight reservation. Either way, the die is clearly of more modern manufacture than the date on this coin. It has been long believed that the first appearance of a Proof silver piece was in 1864, but that coin realized a suspiciously low price. On his website devoted to the study of pattern issues, www.uspatterns.com, Saul Teichman has this to say about the J-154 and its related silver strike:

"The listing for a silver proof in the 1864 McCoy sale has been discredited. It only realized \$8.50, which is much less than the prices realized for the 1851 and 1852 silver

restrikes. This is also likely a reoccurrence [sic] of the 1862 Finotti sale coin. I know of no sure example of this offered prior to the 1870s.

"The first occurrence [sic] for a copper one is lot 262 in Haseltine's March 1876 sale raising the possibility that these were struck in the late 1860s through mid 1870s.

"There are about a half dozen known in copper with the Eliasberg example probably being the finest."

Since the reverse die characteristics seem to match our notes for the 1866 No Motto, it conveniently places it firmly in the timeframe suggested by Teichman. His comment about the quality of the Eliasberg piece — this coin — is also quite interesting, though there are two grading records at the Proof-65 RB level. In all grades there are five grading records for this issue from both major services, and the last public appearance of one we are aware of was a decade ago. This one comes with one of the most famous provenances in American numismatics.

PCGS# 11641.

PCGS Population: 1; 2 finer (both Proof-65 RB).

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from our (Bowers and Merena's) sale of the Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection, May 1996, lot 274.

On October 9, 1853 President Franklin Pierce recognized Johnston B. Creighton by official appointment as a lieutenant in the United States Navy. Creighton had entered the service by way of the Naval Academy in 1838. By 1853, he had served in the West Indies, Brazil, off the coast of Africa, the Pacific Ocean and on "the lakes." While serving in the Mediterranean, he received his commission as lieutenant. He then spent two

years at the Navy Yard of Charlestown, Massachusetts, and later served in the South Atlantic during the Civil War, participating in the blockades of the Confederate States supply routes, and later took Georgetown, South Carolina for the Union. He was commissioned commander before the end of the war, captain after the war, in 1868, commodore in 1874 and eventually admiral.

PRIVATE AND TERRITORIAL GOLD COINS AND RELATED

Though private firms began assaying and coining operations in California as early as 1849, it became rapidly apparent that the federal government would have to step into the monetary scene there. By 1851 its official presence was established by contracting with the leading firm of Moffat & Company, later Curtis, Perry and Ward, to produce official coins. Augustus Humbert was appointed as United States Assayer, and the early coins struck under the government contract bore his name. The large octagonal coins of \$50 face value became a staple of western commerce, though they proved too large for most commonplace transactions and this contributed to their trading at a small discount. This was an untenable situation, as the private minters had largely fallen out of favor and were no longer providing smaller coins in any useful quantity. Even without approval to do so from the Treasury Department, the Assay Office introduced \$10 pieces in January 1852 bearing the Moffat name in an effort to lessen what was becoming a serious commercial problem. By February 12, government permission was granted for the production of the smaller denominations and both \$10 and \$20 issues were struck and circulated, these being the new designs bearing the name of Augustus Humbert. The Humbert issues were struck to finenesses of 800, 884, and 887 parts per thousand.

In 1852, laws were enacted that led to a change of the fineness standard in the U.S. Assay Office coins to 900 parts per thousand. It proved very difficult for California coiners to meet the

requirement due to the lack of copper available for alloy and the difficulty in obtaining parting acids necessary for purification. In early 1853 there was a continuing shortage of small coins and Humbert decided to strike \$10 and \$20 pieces in .884 Fineness, going against the standing laws. These coins were struck between February 23 and March 1, 1853, their production ceasing as soon as parting acids became available. The .900 Fine coins went into production immediately and continued for at least a few months. A few of the .884 Fine coins were released and are rare today, while it is believed that those unreleased were melted and re-coined into .900 Fine issues. Though these early pieces are quite rare, lovely examples of both denominations are included in the 1853 Collection. The vast majority of the surviving U.S. Assay Office coins for 1853 are of the .900 Fine standard, and are also represented in the collection.

The 1853 Collection also includes an example of the final coinage issue of this office, which did not bear the U.S. Assay Office legend at all, but rather the Moffat & Co. name. The firm's right to use this name remained in place, even after acceptance of the government contract to act as the United States Assay Office. It is not known why the firm reverted to this earlier style for their final issue. The Assay Office closed on December 14, 1853. However, official participation of the federal government in coining California's gold was re-established on firm footing with the opening of the United States Branch Mint at San Francisco, in April 1854.



The California Gold Rush created a windfall of opportunity, not only for those willing to work the gold fields, but also for those entrepreneurs willing to take the risks associated with supporting the massive influx of prospectors. A particular Bavarian gentlemen took advantage of such an opportunity. His brother operated a dry goods business in New York, and he set sail for California to set up similar operations in San Francisco. **His name was Levi Strauss, and his company, set up in 1853 is known to every American today.** What may not be known is that the famous Levi's 501 Jeans, introduced in the 1890s, are believed to be the most widely sold article of clothing in the world.

Extremely Rare 1853 U.S. Assay Office \$10

884 THOUS Fine



10066 1853 United States Assay Office of Gold \$10. K-15. **Rarity-7. 884 THOUS. AU-53 (PCGS). CAC.** Light greenish gold with pleasing luster remaining on both sides. Some softness on the highest points of the eagle is typical, but key elements are all respectably defined save for perhaps the arrow feathers. The letters of LIBERTY are all boldly struck up on the ribbon held in the eagle's beak. A few scattered marks as one would expect but there are none of the larger ones often seen on territorial gold coins. A lovely specimen of this very rare issue, believed to have been struck for only about one week in 1853. When Augustus Humbert initially had the dies prepared for this issue, the direction was for them to state the fineness as 880 THOUS, and they

were changed to 884 before any coins were struck. Evidence of this alteration can be seen on this coin, as the area of the ribbon around the 4 shows a polished finish, much different than that seen on the rest of the ribbon. It has been three years since an example of this type has been sold at public auction, not surprising since the combined population reports of both PCGS and NGC include just 16 records for this issue. Only a single example has been graded finer than this one, which has been off the market, held in the 1853 Collection, for more than two decades.

PCGS# 10004.

PCGS Population: 3; 1 finer (AU-55).

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from Superior's sale of February 1991, lot 3076.

Lovely 1853 Assay Office \$10 Gold

900 THOUS Fine



10067 1853 United States Assay Office of Gold \$10. K-16. **Rarity-6-. 900 THOUS. AU-55 (PCGS). CAC.** An exceptionally well struck example of this issue with bold definition of all design elements including the eagle's talons and the arrows in their grasp. Satiny and highly lustrous on both sides. Struck in light greenish gold with pleasant mellow overtones of golden brown. While this issue is

quite a bit more available than its 884 THOUS predecessor, examples this fresh and attractive are quite rare.

PCGS# 10007.

PCGS Population: 4; 8 finer (MS-63 finest).

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from Superior's sale of February 1991, lot 3077.

Rare Mint State 1853 Assay Office \$20

884 THOUS Fine



10068 1853 United States Assay Office of Gold \$20. K-17. **Rarity-7-.** 884 THOUS. MS-61 (PCGS). CAC. **Secure Holder.** As with the 884 THOUS \$10 coins, upon Augustus Humbert's direction to prepare the dies for this coin the fineness was originally cut as 880 THOUS, then altered to 884 THOUS prior to the production of any coins. This coin shows clear evidence of the change, as obvious artifacts of the previously cut 0 are seen around the 4. The last example offered by us was in August 2011, when we sold the Eliasberg Collection specimen, also graded MS-61 by PCGS. That

coin realized \$46,000. This one seems its equal, but has been CAC approved in addition. Attractive light honey gold with strong cartwheel luster on both sides. Well struck and a very pleasing example. While the \$20 denomination is less rare than the \$10, PCGS has graded just six pieces Mint State. This is very few when one considers the popularity of these incredibly historic coins.

PCGS# 10010.

PCGS Population: 2; 3 finer (MS-63 finest).

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from Heritage's sale of June 1997, lot 6562.

Mint State 1853 Assay Office \$20 Gold

900 THOUS Fine



10069 1853 United States Assay Office of Gold \$20. K-18. **Rarity-2.** 900 THOUS. MS-61 (PCGS). CAC. Uniform honey gold on both sides. As this issue was struck, the dies were resulting in obvious flowlines that are particularly strong in the obverse fields. This contributes to the strong

luster seen throughout. Nicely struck with strong aesthetic appeal. A lovely example of the type.

PCGS# 10013.

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from Superior's sale of February 1991 lot 3080.

Mint State 1853 Assay Office \$20 Gold Bearing the Moffat & Co. Name



10070 1853 United States Assay Office of Gold—Moffat \$20. K-19. Rarity-5+. MS-60 (NGC). Light yellow gold with nice luster on both sides. Scattered handling as one would expect for the grade, but no serious marks beyond a nick on the cheek that will serve to easily identify this specimen. Nicely struck. A fairly scarce issue, particularly so in high grade. NGC reports just five grading events in the Mint State range, while PCGS adds only a single coin. We are aware of just two Mint State examples that have traded hands at public auction in the last two decades, this one that has been off the market since 1997, and an NGC MS-62 that sold this year for more than \$80,000. Clearly these are well appreciated in high grade and often held long term by the collectors who are able to secure them.

An often misunderstood issue, this was actually struck by the United States Assay Office of Gold in the summer of 1853, after they ceased production of the “Assay Office” coins bearing the obverse Humbert-style eagle and engine

turned reverse. The firm of Curtis, Perry and Ward, formerly Moffat & Co., retained the rights to the Moffat name throughout their contractual relationship with the federal government as the United States Assay Office. It is unknown why they reverted to this style for their final output. Public notice concerning the new issue appeared in the *Daily Alta California* on July 26, 1853:

“Moffat’s & Co.’s Assay Office. The new double eagles lately issued by this firm are attracting much admiration for their beautiful workmanship. The coin is a facsimile of that struck by the United States Mint, with the head instead of bearing the motto LIBERTY has MOFFAT & Co. As regards design and finish, the piece is scarcely inferior to the issues of the Mint and reflects great credit upon Messrs. Moffat & Co.’s taste, enterprise, and artistic skill.”

PCGS# 10255.

NGC Census: 2; 3 finer (MS-63 finest).

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from Superior’s sale of September 1997, lot 3226.



10071 1853 Octagonal 25 Cents. BG-102. Rarity-4. Liberty Head. AU-58 (PCGS). OGH. By Frontier, Deviercy & Co. Lustrous greenish gold, with traces of orange on the obverse, and blushes of pale blue at the reverse center. A lovely piece with bold luster that might be technically nicer than the grade suggests. From the extraordinary Lee Collection of

California fractional gold, the finest ever sold until our own sale of the complete Jay Roe Collection in 2003.

PCGS# 10371.

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from the Lee Collection; Superior’s sale of the Lee Collection, September 1988, lot 2; Superior’s sale of February 1991, lot 3084.



10072 1853 Round 50 Cents. BG-430. Rarity-3. Liberty Head. AU-58 (PCGS). OGH. Pleasing olive gold with some natural deeper patina and light surface deposits in the recesses. An historically interesting issue, as this type was among those recovered from the wreck of the *S.S. Winfield*

Scott, a passenger and cargo steamer that sank off the coast of southern California on December 1, 1853.

PCGS# 10466.

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from *Heritage's Bullet Auction*, January 1995, lot 567.

Famous "Arms of California" Fifty Cents



10073 1853 Round 50 Cents. BG-435. Rarity-5-. Arms of California, "Humbert" Eagle. AU-58 (PCGS). OGH. A beautiful example of what is probably the most recognizable and broadly desired of all California fractional gold coins. The distinctive obverse design is attractive for its obvious tie-in to the newly established (as of 1850) Golden State, while the reverse ties it to the larger and more famous numismatic cousins produced under the authority of Augustus Humbert, the United States Assayer at San Francisco. Primarily light greenish yellow gold with mottled golden brown accents on both sides. Superb luster and eye appeal. A bit of softness is noted in the central details, as made, but the coin is perhaps

a little nicer than the grade indicates. A few trivial hairlines are noted in the obverse fields under magnification, but are not detectable otherwise.

The Arms of California type has been singled out as uniquely desirable for more than a century. According to the Breen-Gillio reference, when the vast collection of Jules Fonrobert was auctioned in 1878, his example of this type was the only one of his 78 different fractional California gold coins to be illustrated in the catalog.

PCGS# 10471.

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from the *Johnson Collection of Territorial Gold*; *Heritage's ANA Sale* of July 1993, lot 7637.

The Albany, New York Weekly Argus, of April 9, 1853, reports on the March 30th death of Mrs. Millard Fillmore. From the White House, the newly inaugurated President Franklin Pierce wrote the following to Mr. Fillmore on the occasion, "My Dear Sir—Information has just reached me of the death of Mrs. Fillmore. I beg you to accept the assurance of my earnest condolence in this great bereavement. Yielding to my deep feelings of sympathy, and in testimony of respect

for the memory of the deceased, I have directed the meeting of the cabinet this day to be suspended, and the public offices to be closed.

I am, with great consideration, your friend, Franklin Pierce"

Pierce's sincerity in the matter should not be underestimated, for he and his wife had just recently lost their last surviving child on January 6, 1853.

NAVAL MEDALS



- 10074 1853-1854 Commander Duncan Ingraham / Rescue of Martin Koszta Medal. Large Format. Bronzed Copper. 102 mm. Julian NA-26. Mint State.** Dies by James B. Longacre, and Peter Cross, from designs by Captain S. Eastman, with all their marks prominent on the medal. Beautiful mahogany bronze surfaces, lustrous and semi-reflective. A thin scratch is noted in the obverse field, otherwise this medal is fully Choice. The eye appeal is superb and the quality overall outstanding for a bronze medal of this size.

In the harbor of Smyrna, Turkey, Commander Duncan Ingraham threatened to open fire on the Austrian Brig of

War, Hussar, to force the release of captured Hungarian revolutionary Martin Koszta, who had proclaimed his intention to seek asylum and citizenship in the United States. The obverse of the medal depicts the confrontation between the two naval vessels. The reverse bears the tribute of the American president and congress to Ingraham's GALLANT AND JUDICIOUS CONDUCT in rescuing Koszta at gunpoint.

From the 1853 Collection. Previously from our (Stack's) Americana Sale of January 2003, lot 1598.

INDIAN PEACE MEDALS



- 10075 1850 Millard Fillmore Indian Peace Medal. Large Size. Bronzed Copper. 75.9 mm. Julian IP-30. Very Choice About Uncirculated.** With just the faintest trace of friction on the high points. Attractive medium tan copper flecked with red, gold and violet. Pleasantly reflective in the fields and free of any serious marks. The dies for this medal were prepared by Salathiel Ellis and Joseph Willson. Some of the

undistributed silver strikes were melted and struck into Franklin Pierce medals dated 1853. The Pierce and Fillmore medals were struck using the same reverse die. Millard Fillmore was president of the United States at the beginning of 1853, until Pierce's inauguration on March 4th.

From the 1853 Collection. Purchased privately from Hanks and Associates, September 1998.

Lovely Silver Franklin Pierce Indian Peace Medal

Large Size



10076 1853 Franklin Pierce Indian Peace Medal. Large Size. Silver. 76.1 mm. 2344.4 grains. Julian IP-32. Very Fine. Dies by Salathiel Ellis and Joseph Willson, whose prominent signatures appear on each die. Neatly holed for suspension at the usual position. A very pleasing large-size Pierce that was clearly long worn by the original recipient or an heir, as the surfaces show smooth loss of detail on the highest points. Scattered fine marks are seen throughout the fields, also consistent with such use. However, it is remarkable that no major marks are seen on either side, this one having escaped the rough treatment many such medals received in the course of regular use and display. One small rim



abrasion is noted near 12 o'clock on the reverse, noted for accuracy as well as for future identification. Dies were ready by September 1853, and by November the silver medals had been delivered. There were 120 large size Pierce medals struck, but 23 of these are reported to have remained on hand and eventually destroyed at the end of the Pierce presidency and when the dies for the Buchanan medals were ready for production of the next series. Therefore, fewer than 100 of the large medals were distributed and only a fraction of those survive today.

From the 1853 Collection. From our (Stack's) Americana Sale, January 1999, lot 252.



10077 1853 Franklin Pierce Indian Peace Medal. Large Size. First Obverse. Bronzed Copper. 76.8 mm. Julian IP-32. Mint State. An area of spotting is noted on the obverse before Pierce's throat, but the surfaces are fairly nice otherwise. Attractive light chocolate brown with accents of pale blue and violet iridescence in the reflective fields.



From the 1853 Collection. Previously from the Louis E. Eliasberg Sr. Collection; our (Bowers and Merena's) sale of the Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection, April 1997, lot 3029.



- 10078 1853 Franklin Pierce Indian Peace Medal. Large Size. First Obverse, Muling. Bronzed Copper. 75.8 mm. Julian-Unlisted. Choice Mint State.** Just a few faint hairlines in the reflective fields, but essentially mark free otherwise. Beautiful light chestnut bronze with pale blue and violet iridescence. A rare muling of the Franklin Pierce obverse with the Clasped Hands reverse style that was used on Indian Peace medals from 1809 to 1849. However, the original die wore

out and was replaced in 1849 with a slightly different one which is the one used to strike this medal. Another example of this muling was in our sale of the Ford Collection, Part XVIII:142.

From the 1853 Collection. Previously from our (Bowers and Merena's) sale of the David W. Dreyfuss Collection, April 1986, lot 5166; Presidential's sale of July 1993, lot 274; our (Bowers and Merena's) ANA Sale of the Millennium, August 2000, lot 3343.

Scarce Silver Franklin Pierce Indian Peace Medal Second Size



- 10079 1853 Franklin Pierce Indian Peace Medal. Second Size. Silver. 63.5 mm. 1682.6 grains. Julian IP-33. Very Fine.** Dies by Salathiel Ellis and Joseph Willson, whose prominent signatures are seen on both dies. Another old friend of the firm, this piece was last handled by us in our November 2001 sale, where we described it, in part, as follows:

"Holed for suspension at 12:00 with silver ring. Even and attractive silver gray. This clearly awarded medal has the usual tiny nicks and ancient scratches, including one placed strategically on the part in Pierce's hair. A large rim bump present at 10:00 on the obverse and some tooling marks in the vicinity will identify this specimen in the future. The overall appeal of this piece is very nice for the grade, with desirable toning that indicates this piece has not been cleaned for some time."

"This issue is of the utmost rarity, with only 118 actually distributed according to R.W. Julian. It is worth noting that a single specimen represented this issue in the three major offerings of Indian Peace medals of the last 20 years: NASCA's sale of the Kessler-Spangenberg Collections in 1981, and our offerings of the David Dreyfuss Collection (1986) and the Chris Schenkel Collection (1990). This specimen is of congruent sharpness to that example. The large format piece appears to be more common today than that offered here..."

Indeed, the incredible Ford Collection offerings included five large-size examples and two of this second size. Probably fewer than ten examples of this medal are known today.

From the 1853 Collection. Previously from the Tree Many Feathers Collection; our (Bowers and Merena's) sale of the Tree Many Feathers Collection, November 2001, lot 5173.

AGRICULTURAL, MECHANICAL, SCIENTIFIC, AND PROFESSIONAL MEDALS



- 10080** 1853 Exposition of the Industry of All Nations Award Medal. Silver. 57.3 mm. 79.8 grams. Julian AM-16. About Uncirculated. Dies by Charles Cushing Wright. Bright silver with subtle accents of slate gray in the recesses and on the reverse. Cleaned in the past as commonly seen on medals prized by their original owners, as this one likely was. However, the fields retain very nice reflectivity and the overall eye appeal is quite pleasing. A lovely medal by the skilled hand of C.C. Wright, and one of just 125 reported



struck in silver. According to Robert Julian, the Association for the Exhibition, presided over by P.T. Barnum, requested 125 silver medals and 1,150 bronze. Chief Coiner Franklin Peale reported that these were struck and had been delivered by August 25, 1854. The bronze ones seem scarcer than the number requested would otherwise suggest, while the silver examples are rarely seen.

From the 1853 Collection. Purchased privately from Anthony Terranova, December 2000.



- 10081** 1853 Exposition of the Industry of All Nations Award Medal. Bronzed Copper. 57.3 mm. Julian AM-16. Choice Mint State. Dies by Charles Cushing Wright. Lovely dark chocolate brown, glossy and rather uniform save for some faint tan flecks. A narrow mark is noted in the obverse exergue, and magnification reveals a few tiny reverse spots that are scarcely detected otherwise. It is reported by Robert Julian that 1,150 of these medals were ordered in bronze



and that all were reported delivered as of August 25, 1854. However, these medals seem much scarcer today than this figure would suggest, and it should not be mistaken as common due to the appearance of two bronze examples in the 1853 Collection. It might be some time before another is available.

From the 1853 Collection. Purchased privately from Anthony Terranova, August 2001.



- 10082 1853 Exposition of the Industry of All Nations Award Medal. Bronzed Copper. 57.3 mm. Julian AM-16. Mint State.** Dies by Charles Cushing Wright. Really a very choice medal save for one small obverse spot. Glossy deep chocolate bronze with a faint mahogany tint. Highly lustrous and

verging on reflective in the fields. Very nice aesthetic appeal. One of 1,150 reported struck, but survivors suggest that relatively few of these have survived.

From the 1853 Collection. Purchased privately from Anthony Terranova.



- 10083 1853 Boston School Medal. The Gift of Franklin. Silver. 33.9 mm. 20.3 grams. Julian SC-11; Greenslet GM-359. Choice About Uncirculated.** Dies by Francis N. Mitchell, struck at the United States Mint. Delightful light pearl gray silver with light rose and pale blue accents over subtly reflective surfaces. Trivial handling and a bit of hairlining in the fields. According to Robert Julian, at the time this piece was awarded it was typical for there to be between

100 and 150 such medals awarded each year. This one is a particularly attractive survivor. Inscribed to the recipient on the reverse, in two lines, "George A. Lovejoy / 1853." Lovejoy was a Franklin Scholar at Chapman School, Boston, and is listed in the Annual Report of the School Committee of the City of Boston as a recipient of the award.

From the 1853 Collection. Previously from our (Stack's) Americana Sale of January 1999, lot 320.



10084 1853 Michigan State Agricultural Society Award Medal. Silver. 57.5 mm. 58.3 grams. Julian AM-45. **Extremely Fine.** Dies by Charles Cushing Wright, his name in the obverse exergue. A lovely medal in design and execution, as typical of works from Wright's skilled hands. Medium gray silver with mottled overtones of light slate and violet. According to Robert Julian, this medal was not struck at the

Mint until 1860, but he comments that earlier impressions were probably made "outside the mint, prior to 1860." This would be one of those cases. The medal was awarded and inscribed to J. Davidson for the "Best Draught Brood Mare" at the Society's 5th Annual meeting, 1853.

From the 1853 Collection. Purchased privately from Anthony Terranova, November 2000.

WASHINGTONIANA

Exceptional 1853 Fill Blessed Sun Medal



10085 1853 Fill Blessed Sun Medal. White Metal. 53.6 mm. Baker-E96A. Choice Mint State. An absolutely beautiful example of this classic Washington medal. It is as interesting for its distinctive design as it is for its connection to a famed collector, Charles Bushnell, who commissioned it of Charles Cushing Wright. The obverse is visually striking for its very high relief bust, styled after the masterful work by Houdon. The plain field, with only the inscription around, on a narrow ribbon, makes the portrait stand out even more. The reverse is also distinctively designed, borrowing the 13-links motif from classic early American issues such as the Continental dollars and Fugio coppers. Bold prooflike reflectivity in the fields exhibit a few faint hairlines, but still nicely showcase the satiny devices. This particular piece is likely among the finer of the few known to exist. William Spohn Baker was unaware of the type when he wrote his extensive study of Washington pieces in 1885. By 1914 it had come to light, and the Chapman brothers called it "very rare" in their sale of the Parsons Collection that year. By the time the Fuld-Rulau

revision of Baker was published, just three were known to the editors. A few more have now been documented, but we believe the number to be about 10 or so. Clearly, this is a very rare medal among the pre-Civil War Washington issues, and it is highly desired by collectors of the series. The most recent appearance of this type at auction was in our landmark offering of the Charles A. Wharton Collection, in March of this year, where we sold the former Oechsner-Collins specimen. This one is a bit finer. Speaking further to the rarity, this medal was missing from many great cabinets of Washington pieces, including those of the Garrett family, David Dreyfuss, Lucien LaRiviere and, remarkably, that of the Norweb family. An standout medal of fine design and a very impressive example, par for the course among the rarities of the 1853 Collection.

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from Presidential Coin and Antique's Great Eastern Sale, June 1989, lot 146; our (Stack's) sale of January 2000, lot 633.

Outstanding 1853 Crystal Palace Medal in Silver

Extremely Rare



10086 1853 New York Crystal Palace Medal. Silver. 51.5 mm. 56.9 grams. Baker-361. Rarity-8. Choice Mint State. Obverse by Alexander C. Morin, of Philadelphia, his mark below Washington's truncation. Reverse by Anthony Paquet, his name at the lower left of the central motif. An exceptionally beautiful example of this rare medal, in the most precious of known compositions. The toning is bold and original, and of the style typically seen imparted by long-term cabinet storage in old-time collections. The obverse is blended pale blue, violet and pearl gray near the center, while bright gold, rose and blue appear around the rims. The reverse is accented by light rose, blue and sea green. Bold prooflike reflectivity on both sides with a rich satin frost on the motifs. One small abrasion is noted on Washington's truncation, but otherwise the medal is remarkably free of

all but the most minor handling. The aesthetic appeal is nothing short of exquisite, and it is every bit the equal of the beautiful Zabriskie Collection specimen that appeared in our March 2013 sale of the Charles A. Wharton Collection. Appearances of this medal can be quite infrequent, and the appearance of two this year is a remarkable anomaly. They command intense attention when they do appear, as seen in both the Zabriskie sale of 1999, as well as in our March sale. The offering of this beautiful piece presents an unusual opportunity for those who missed out on the last one to compete for another outstanding example that has been off the market for more than a dozen years.

From the 1853 Collection. Purchased privately from Anthony Terranova, August 22, 2001.

Inspired by the London Crystal Palace constructed for the great International fair held there in 1851, the New York Crystal Palace was constructed as the central exhibition hall for another great international fair titled the Great Exhibition of Art and Industry. The event opened July 14, 1853, and the grand glass and iron structure with a dome 100 feet in diameter was the centerpiece of the event, as well as a landmark of American architecture. There were 5,272 exhibitors in the building from all over the world. After its closing in 1854, the building was leased out for various events and conventions until the city of New York took over the property. In the October 1858 issue of Harper's Weekly, in the "Monthly Record of Current Events" column, this appeared: "The Crystal Palace in New York, built in 1853 for the Exhibition of the Industry of all Nations, was burned on the afternoon of October 5. The Exhibition, it will be remembered, proved a pecuniary failure, the stockholders losing their entire investment. The Fair of the American Institute had just been opened in the Palace, which was filled with objects for exhibition, some of which were of considerable value. Many works of art, sent to the Exhibition of 1853, still remained in the Palace. The principal of these were Thorwaldsen's colossal group of Christ and the Apostles, and Kiss's Amazon and Tiger. These were consumed with the building. The fire is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary, and a reward of \$3,000 has been offered for his apprehension. The entire loss is estimated a fully half a million of dollars, besides the value of the building, which cost \$635,000, and might probably have been sold for a quarter of that sum." This inspired New York City coin dealer Augustus B. Sage to commission diesinker George H. Lovett to create a commemorative medalet showing on the obverse the Crystal Palace in flames, and on the reverse a notation from Ecclesiastes, "ALL IS VANITY." This medalet, elusive today, proved to be popular in its time and launched a series of historical and commemorative pieces issued through 1859.





10087 1853 New York Crystal Palace Medal. Bronze. 51.7 mm. Baker-361A. Rarity-6. Mint State, Nearly Choice. Obverse by Alexander C. Morin, of Philadelphia, his mark below Washington's truncation. Reverse by Anthony Paquet, his name at the lower left of the central motif. Lovely deep chocolate brown bronze with traces of olive and mottled highlights of blue and violet iridescence. Prooflike reflectivity in the fields, and sharp satiny devices with

virtually no marks beyond a few faint hairlines. Well struck on a nice thick flan. Not as rare as silver strikes, but still very desirable in this grade.

For the week of July 1853, the New York Crystal Palace generated sales of 9,506 season tickets, had 16,608 "transient visitors" and collected \$8,147 at the door. This was a daily average for the week of \$,352 visitors.

From the 1853 Collection. Earlier from our (Stack's) sale of January 2000, lot 639.



10088 1853 New York Crystal Palace Medal. White Metal. 51.5 mm. Baker-361B. Rarity-6. Choice About Uncirculated. Obverse by Alexander C. Morin, of Philadelphia, his mark below Washington's truncation. Reverse by Anthony Paquet, his name at the lower left of the central motif. Brilliant white metal with a few scattered flecks seen under magnification.

Boldly reflective fields and satiny devices. A third example of this desirable type, offering the aesthetic of brilliant "silver" but without the rarity of that fine metal or the high price it commands.

From the 1853 Collection. Purchased privately from Anthony Terranova, December 2002.

At the same time that H.B. West's Famous Trained Dogs, Tray and Troy, were entertaining visitors to New York's Crystal Palace, Samuel Clemens, better known as Mark Twain was counted among those who attended the fair. **He left his boyhood home in 1853**, apparently stopping in New York before settling for a time as an apprentice riverboat pilot on the Mississippi River in 1857. New York also saw the arrival of the well-known coin dealer Edward Cogan who emigrated from Great Britain in 1853. He began as a collector, but as he saw the desire rise amongst new collectors for specimens, he began selling his own and thus began his trade.

MASONIC CHAPTERS



- 10089** **Masonic Keystone Embedded in an 1853 Braided Hair Cent. 27.5 mm. Host Coin Choice Very Good.** Likely gold, with white enamel keystone set into the reverse of the coin, while the obverse retains evidence of mostly lost silvering. A charming “chapter penny” of a somewhat primitive style

in some respects, with no identification of the chapter itself, though a great deal of effort went into its making. One of the more charming pieces of the 1853 Collection.

From the 1853 Collection. Previously from Chris Victor McCawley.

AWARD MEDALS



- 10090** **1853 American Institute Award Medal. Gold. 28.1 mm. 16.55 grams. Choice About Uncirculated.** Dies by Robert Lovett, Jr., his mark prominently placed in the obverse exergue. Prooflike in the obverse fields, somewhat less so on the open field of the reverse where the award inscription is engraved. Somewhat handled as typical of such awards, but very pleasing in hand. Inscribed in four lines to, “Ebenezer Barrows / For a Superior / Rotary Engine. / 1853.” The engraving is nicely accomplished.

A complete discussion of Ebenezer Barrows’ “Double-Acting Reversible Rotary Steam-Engine” which is “Arranged for Working Steam Expansively” is thoroughly discussed and diagrammed in *Appletons’ Mechanics’ Magazine and Engineers’ Journal*, No. 8, Volume III, August 1st, 1853

beginning on page 169. Barrows also created a smaller such engine two years prior to this improved model, which was employed in the Crystal Palace at the Exposition of the Industry of All Nations.

The American Institute began in the late 1820s to set up an annual exhibition in New York City to display the fruits of manufacture, art, agriculture and commerce. Each year it issued an annual report, sometimes under the imprimatur of the State of New York, often describing the products in detail, giving the addresses of the exhibitors, etc. Appletons’ gives the address of Ebenezer Barrows at 228 Water Street, at the corner of Beekman in New York City.

From the 1853 Collection. Previously from our (Bowers and Merena’s) sale of November 2001, lot 5392.



10091 Undated American Institute Award Medal. Overstruck on an 1853 Braided Hair Cent. 28.3 mm. HT-M1, L-415. Choice About Uncirculated. Dies by Robert Lovett, Jr. Glossy light chocolate brown with coppery rose remaining around most of the obverse device. Pale blue and violet overtones are seen in the fields. The plain field of the reverse intended for the award inscription is blank on this unawarded piece, but close inspection reveals strong elements of the undertype. This piece was struck over an 1853 large cent. Most of the letters of LIBERTY are easily seen at the center, while much of the outline of the portrait can be discerned under magnification. Below, at about 3 o'clock relative to the American Institute reverse, the digits

853 of the overstruck large cent are unmistakable. This is the only such overstruck example we are aware of, and it might well be unique. Such overstrikes always add a bit of intrigue and charm when noticed. While the undertype is easy to indentify as to the type, the die variety presents a great challenge. Bob Grellman had the opportunity to give it a try and suggested Newcomb-17 as a possibility, but with the reservation that there was just not quite enough present to be sure.

From the 1853 Collection. Previously from our (Bowers and Merena's) sale of the Robert Lindesmith Collection, March 2000, lot 1163.

Rare Early San Francisco Award Medal Struck in Silver



10092 1853 Agricultural and Horticultural Fair by Warren and Son Award Medal. San Francisco, California. Silver. 51.1 mm. 58.2 grams. Extremely Fine. Obverse by F.B. Smith and Hartmann; Reverse by Ball, Black and Company, New York, signatures prominent on both sides. Bright silver with reflectivity in the fields and some deeper toning within the rims. Struck as an award of the Agricultural and Horticultural Fair for Sacramento, these medals originally incorporated "Sept. 18th" and "SACRAMENTO CITY,"

CAL" into the designs. On this medal, like that presented in our Ford Sale, Part XX (October 2007:3293), these elements have been removed and in their place "San Francisco, Cal. / Oct. 1853" has been engraved on the obverse. Awarded to and inscribed on the reverse to, "Geo. A. Lloyd / for / Best Sweet Potatoes," whereas the Ford specimen was awarded for "Superior Onions."

From the 1853 Collection. Purchased privately from Anthony Terranova, November 2013.

LIFE SAVING MEDALS



- 10093 (1853) Wreck of the Steamer San Francisco Life Saving Medal. White Metal. 39.5 mm. Extremely Fine.** By Charles Cushing Wright, whose mark appears on the left side of the obverse, near the rim. Light pewter gray with some scattered handling. A trial for the silver originals, which is suggested by the clipped planchet, which would never be acceptable for a finished example of a medal like this. Awarded silver impressions are extremely rare, and just five are known to us including the ex John Ford examples sold by us in 2005 and 2007, the most recent of which brought more than \$25,000.

Michael Hodder described the events surrounding the loss of the steamer San Francisco in these words in our October 2004 catalog of the sale of Part V of the John Ford Collection, where we offered an awarded and inscribed silver example of this medal:

"The wreck of the Aspinwall line steamer San Francisco caught the public's attention as no other American disaster at sea ever had before. She was a brand new vessel sailing the familiar Atlantic leg of the voyage to the fabled California gold fields. Her captain, J.T. Watkins, was experienced and her crew included men who would later win medals for their attempts to assist stricken passengers. She sailed under a federal charter to carry eight companies of the 3rd Regiment of Artillery on their way west. There was nothing about the San Francisco that would lead an observer to imagine her maiden voyage would end in tragedy except the fact that she appeared heavily laden when she left New York harbor. It later emerged that she was loaded past her limit and that part of her passenger space was crammed with coal. There were 498 artillerymen, their 16 officers, and with their wives, children and the ship's company there were in all 750 souls aboard the ill-fated vessel. Three hundred of them were housed on the main deck for lack of space, below.

"The San Francisco left New York on December 21, 1853, sailing into good weather and calm seas. The weather held for the next two days but the ship's impending fate was announced by the discovery of fever among the overcrowded servicemen below decks. No sooner had disease spread to the passengers than the fair weather the ill-fated ship had enjoyed until then declined into a howling gale. Two days after leaving New York, the San Francisco's lifeboats were washed away, her upper saloon and promenade decks were pounded to splinters by the crashing waves and her engines

were drowned. Soon afterwards, she lost her masts and both funnels and was tossed about helpless amid the high waves, her fate and the lives of her passengers and crew uncertain. One hundred and sixty of her passengers were swept overboard when the upper saloon was smashed.

"The San Francisco was sighted by the Maria Freeman on December 26, which recorded that the stricken vessel's decks had been swept bare and she was clearly helpless in the water. Two days later, the Kilby was able to lay alongside and take off about 100 passengers, who were transferred to the down-easter Lucy Thompson and taken to New York. After a further two days of aimless drifting, the San Francisco was raised by the Three Bells but because the seas were too threatening the master of the Three Bells was forced to stand by until January 3. In concert with the Antarctic, which had arrived to help, the Three Bells and her aide then began taking the passengers and crew off the San Francisco. The Three Bells rescued nearly 200 souls and carried them back to New York, arriving there on January 13. The Antarctic took off 176 (192 by another account) and sailed them to Liverpool. The helpless San Francisco soon sank. Nearly 20 per cent of the 300 passengers and crewmen who died in the disaster were lost to cholera.

"The public responded to the disaster by authorizing various medals for bravery to the rescuers of the stricken San Francisco. The U.S. Mint issued LS.11, the congressional medal in gold, to the three captains of the rescue ships, Creighton of the Three Bells out of Glasgow, Low of the barque Kilby out of Boston, and Stouffer of the Antarctic out of Liverpool; and LS.12 in gold, the medal authorized by the city of Philadelphia to the three heroes. The three captains received a subsidy of \$7,500 each from the nation. Mates received \$500 and each seaman and boy \$100. The Humane Society of Massachusetts also issued medals to the rescuers, as well as to members of the San Francisco's crew who distinguished themselves in the course of the disaster. The merchants and citizens of New York City also issued medals, [of the style offered here,] to the rescuers aboard the Lucy Thompson, which brought the first of the survivors to New York. The lifesaving medals for the wreck of the San Francisco are among the most highly prized of all such rarities."

From the 1853 Collection. Purchased privately from Anthony Terranova, November 2000.

FAIRS AND EXPOSITIONS



- 10094 1853 Exposition of the Industry of All Nations Medal.** White Metal. 73.7 mm. **Choice About Uncirculated.** Pleasing light pewter gray and attractively finished with engine turned rims. Light hairlines, a couple of fine pin scratches in the fields, and a couple of light rim bumps are noted. Still the eye appeal is quite nice and this is largely



due to the dramatically detailed designs. Allegorical figures representing Europe, Asia, Africa and South America around a large globe at center. The reverse with the magnificently executed New York Crystal Palace at center.

From the 1853 Collection. Previously from our (Stack's) Americana Sale, January 2000, lot 672.



- 10095 1853 Exposition of the Industry of All Nations Medal.** White Metal. 51.5 mm. **Extremely Fine.** Medium pewter gray with traces of mild pebling. Still reflective in many areas of the field, particularly on the reverse. A commemorative medal of the magnificent Crystal Palace, with a fine representation of the structure on the obverse. The reverse



is a memorial to the erection of the first pillar during the construction, on October 30th, 1852, and the opening of the structure in June 1853.

From the 1853 Collection. Purchased privately from Anthony Terranova, June 2000.

SO-CALLED DOLLARS



- 10096** 1853 Crystal Palace Dollar. Type I. White Metal. 45 mm. HK-6. Rarity-6. Extremely Fine, Small Rim Nicks. Somewhat bright from an old cleaning, but some of the original reflective quality of the fields is still readily apparent



on both sides. About typical quality for this scarce so-called dollar, but on the higher end.

From the 1853 Collection. Purchased privately from Anthony Terranova, 2000.

MERCHANT TOKENS



- 10097** Alabama—Mobile. 1853 Mobile Jockey Club Members Medal. Miller-Ala 3. Copper. 27.4 mm. MS-63 RB. Boldly reflective in the fields which have strong violet and blue iridescence. Deep tan otherwise with considerable mint red remaining around all devices and through the legends.



A small planchet imperfection is noted at the rim above the horse's head, which is as made. Visually striking and popular.

From the 1853 Collection. Previously from Chris Victor McCawley.



- 10098 New York—New York. Lot of (3) 1853 H.B. West's Trained Dogs Advertising Cards.** Included are: Miller-NY 948, copper, MS-63 BN, light olive brown with considerable red around the devices; Miller-NY 949, brass, AU-55, lustrous brass, with deeper patina on the high points; and Miller-NY 949A, silvered brass, AU-55, bright and lustrous, but with

light verdigris. An attractive threesome of this merchant issue. The tokens were sold at the New York Crystal Palace, where H.B. West's dogs were among the amusements available to attendees of the fair.

From the 1853 Collection. Purchased privately from Steve Tanenbaum, 2000.

COUNTERSTAMPS



- 10099 California—Sacramento. J.L. POLHEMUS / DRUGGIST / 190 J. ST. COR. 7TH / SACRAMENTO CAL. on an 1853 Arrows Liberty Seated dime. Brunk P-563, Miller-Calif 1. VF-30 (NGC).** The grade assigned is apparently for the host, while the mark is deeply impressed and sharp. A very nice example from this well-collected early California merchant.

James Lozier Polhemus was a druggist in Sacramento at 190 J Street, the corner of 7th, during the Gold Rush era. In front of his store he had a large mortar and pestle sign, a miniature representation of which appears on his multi-line counterstamp. Polhemus probably counterstamped

many thousands of silver coins, and also some gold coins, including a truly remarkable double eagle that found its way aboard the S.S. *Sonora* when it left San Francisco in August 1857, then across land on the Panama Railroad, then aboard the S.S. *Central America* out of Aspinwall on the Atlantic side of Panama. The "Ship of Gold" as it has been called, went down in a hurricane on September 12, carrying with it the largest numismatic treasure ever lost up to that time — and not remotely equaled by any treasure lost since then.

From the 1853 Collection. Previously from the John J. Ford, Jr. Collection; our sale of the John J. Ford, Jr. Collection, Part XXIII, August 2013, lot 21845.



10100 J.M. Gardner & CO. / W. CORNWALL CT. on an 1853 Arrows and Rays Liberty Seated quarter. Brunk-Unlisted. Host Coin Choice Very Good. Pleasing medium gray silver. J.M. Gardner operated a shear shop in West Cornwall. He also opened a sash and blind business, which failed,

according to *Historical Records of the Town of Cornwall*, Litchfield County, Connecticut, 1904.

From the 1853 Collection. Previously from Ralph Goldstone, December 1977; John J. Ford, Jr.; our sale of the John J. Ford, Jr. Collection, Part XXIII, August 2013, lot 21725.

END OF THE 1853 COLLECTION

ADDITIONAL RARITIES

INDIAN PEACE MEDAL

High Grade Small Size Andrew Jackson Indian Peace Medal



10101 1829 Andrew Jackson Indian Peace Medal. Small Size. Silver. 51.1 mm. 1070.1 grains. Julian IP-16. Choice Extremely Fine. Holed for suspension, as issued. An especially high grade example of this important original Peace medal type. The surfaces retain a good deal of their natural reflectivity and luster, now toned in deep gray and navy blue, with brighter silver around devices and peripheries. The highest relief of Jackson's hair is a bit abraded, but otherwise the wear is even and light on both sides. Some hairlines are present, as would be expected, along with some trivial ancient scratches in the right obverse field

and on Jackson's shoulder and collar. A smattering of light contact marks are noted on the reverse, most evident in the field above FRIENDSHIP and on the knuckles. The rims are essentially perfect, with just a single tiny rim tick below I of FRIENDSHIP. A beautiful specimen, clearly worn, but just as clearly well-preserved. Our (Stack's) 2006 Ford XVI sale included two silver specimens of this size, both in similar condition. A natural-appearing example described as "dull appearance" and showing many little scratches hammered at \$25,300. A second, which had been unfortunately plugged, had prettier surfaces but netted just \$8,625.

LARGE CENTS

Exceptional Choice AU 1793 Chain Cent *AMERICA, With Periods*



10102 1793 Chain Reverse. S-4. Rarity-3+. Noyes Die State B. AMERICA, With Periods. AU-55 (PCGS). The surfaces exhibit a hard, satiny texture that is exceptionally smooth for this historic one-year copper type. Deep brown patina dominates both sides. The obverse is evenly toned but the reverse has intermingled reddish-gold highlights evident as the coin rotates under a light. The detail is bold to sharp over even the more minor elements of the design. A thin, shallow planchet flaw, as made, meanders through the top of Liberty's portrait, but it is easily forgiven in an example that is otherwise smooth and close to pristine.

The first of the copper coins struck at the fledgling Philadelphia Mint, the Chain cents of 1793 are near

and dear to most American collectors, especially those intrigued by the early coppers. Four distinct die couplings were made of the Chain cents, with Sheldon-4 as offered here the only one with punctuation, in this case with a period after LIBERTY and another after the date. Sheldon-1 has the AMERI. reverse, while S-2 and S-3 have the AMERICA reverse as here, but no otherwise distinctive abbreviations or periods. The Choice AU grade of the present coin guarantees bold bidding competition when it crosses the auction block. Once it is hammered home, chances are you will not have another opportunity to bid on a Chain cent of this quality for some time to come.

PCGS# 91341. NGC ID: 223F.

Famous 1793 Wreath Cent

Vine and Bars Edge



10103 1793 Wreath Reverse. S-6. Rarity-3. Vine and Bars Edge. EF Details—Damage (PCGS). Deep golden-tan throughout with bold details as well, especially so in Liberty's tresses which are sharp and nearly all present. Some minor planchet roughness comes to light under low magnification, though this distraction basically escapes the unaided eye. The "damage" qualifier pertains to a patch of light digs and scratches in the field immediately below OF in the reverse legend; even these distractions are apparent only under low magnification. The designer of this type, the second of three in the first year of copper coinage in the large cent series, is unknown, though the die work has been laid at the feet of Henry Voigt. According to the *Red Book*, this design type saw a mintage of 63,353 pieces, with the vast majority of

known survivors from that press run apt to be just AG to VG or slightly better — even those pieces command attention and strong bids whenever an example is offered. The Wreath cents show a sprig of three leaves above the date, though the reason for this is not known. (A rare variety of the Wreath cent — four known — shows what has become known as a "strawberry" leaf above the date — this writer [FVV] once held all of the known Strawberry Leaf cents in his hand at one time while cataloging for American Numismatic Rarities [ANR], a neat encounter not to be forgotten.) The present piece deserves a good "once over twice" by would-be bidders, as its quality far exceeds the expectations of a "damaged" coin.

PCGS# 1347. NGC ID: 223H.

Choice VF 1793 Wreath Cent

Vine and Bars Edge



10104 1793 Wreath Reverse. S-10. Rarity-4. Noyes Die State B. Vine and Bars Edge. VF-35 (PCGS). Boldly defined from an expertly centered strike, both sides are warmly toned in a blend of medium brown and olive-copper. The first coinage at the newly opened Mint in Philadelphia consisted of 1793-dated cents and half cents. The cents of the year come in three distinct types — Chain, Wreath, and Liberty Cap — and all are desirable at most stops across the grading spectrum. The VF-35 grade offered here is a challenging grade for 1793 coppers of any type. The 1793 Wreath cents

are listed in the *Red Book* in three recognizable styles, the Vine and Bars Edge style offered here, as well as a Lettered Edge style and the famous Strawberry Leaf variety of which just four examples are known. No large cent cabinet or type collection is complete without a Wreath cent, and the present Choice VF-35 coin would be an excellent addition to any collection currently being formed, large cents or otherwise.

PCGS# 1347.

Mahogany MS-62 1810 S-284 Cent

Among the Finest Known



10105 1810 S-284. Rarity-3. MS-62 BN (NGC). The rich mahogany surfaces are graced by a satiny golden aura across both sides of this charming Mint State early cent. An impressive strike has imparted bold and intricate devices, pairing against silky, undisturbed fields throughout. Close examination only serves to reaffirm the stunning preservation and superior eye appeal offered by the present example. Although the Rarity-3 rating generally signifies a “common” variety to most collectors, this consideration

has no application when considering high-grade specimens as offered here. Only a handful of coins grading above the EF-45 level can be accounted for. The Condition Census for the variety from Walter Breen’s *Encyclopedia of Early United States Cents, 1793-1814* is listed as: 61-61-61-60-55-55-55-55-50-50-50-50-50. Certainly one of the finest specimens to cross the auction block in recent years.

PCGS# 1549. NGC ID: 224S.

SMALL CENTS

Famous 1856 Flying Eagle Cent Rarity



10106 1856 Flying Eagle. Snow-9. Proof. Unc Details—Spot Removed (PCGS). Fully struck with razor sharp devices, this rather appealing piece also exhibits light and even golden-tan patina. Far nicer than the PCGS qualifier might imply.

The first of the small cent issues, the 1856 has been widely sought since its inception 158 years ago. These pieces were originally struck to the extent of fewer than 1,000 coins for presentation to members of Congress and other dignitaries.

Word soon got out in collector circles — small at the time but out in force for this instance — and during the next few years thousands of 1856 Flying Eagle cents were produced to satisfy the demand for the date. Today the demand has not dampened, and attractive examples of the date, in any grade, bring strong bidding activity. Take a good look at this one.

PCGS# 2037.

Gem Proof-65 1858 Large Letters Cent

Estimated Mintage of Just 100 Coins



10107 1858 Flying Eagle Cent. Large Letters. Snow-PR1, the only known dies. Doubled Die Obverse, High Leaves Reverse. Proof-65 (PCGS). A golden-brown patina is accented by lilac and magenta highlights throughout this stunning Large Letters cent. The heavily frosted devices appear to be effortlessly suspended in the glassy surrounding fields, offering a pleasingly reflective contrast that flirts with a Cameo designation. Rick Snow provides a mintage estimate of 100 pieces. This total is comprised of 80 specimens struck

for inclusion in silver and minor-coin proof sets plus an additional 20 coins distributed as part of special pattern sets. Snow's estimate dovetails nicely with the combined population statistics of the two major certification services. Most certified examples of the variety are in the range from Proof-64 to 65.

PCGS# 2042. NGC ID: 227C.

Ex: Goldberg's sale of *The Heathgate Collection of Flying Eagle and Indian Cents*, February 16, 2001, lot 1079.

Rare Proof 1858 Small Letters Cent

Snow PR-1 Variety



10108 1858 Small Letters. Snow-PR1. High Leaves Reverse. Proof-64 (PCGS). Gorgeous reflective surfaces glitter with rose-orange iridescence and are delightfully preserved. The devices are predictably razor-sharp and the eye appeal is excellent. The cataloger (AWP) has had the enviable privilege of presenting two 1858 Small Letter Flying Eagle cent Proofs in the present sale, representing two distinct varieties PR1 and PR4. It's remarkable that an issue with such a tiny mintage (estimated by us at 100 to 150 pieces) could be represented by multiple die varieties. We commend

Rick Snow's book titled *Flying Eagle & Indian Cents*, which details the different varieties and provides much historical background information on the series. As has been noted elsewhere, 1858 Flying Eagle cents in Proof format are much rarer than Proof impressions of the celebrated 1856 Flying Eagle cent.

PCGS# 2043. NGC ID: 227D.

From Goldberg's sale of *The Heathgate Collection*, February 2001, lot 1080.

A Third Proof 1858 Flying Eagle Cent

Small Letters Obverse



10109 1858 Small Letters. Snow-PR4. Low Leaves Reverse. Doubled Die Reverse. Proof-64 (PCGS). Fiery magenta iridescence complements the overall golden-brown surfaces of this gorgeous near-Gem Proof. The motifs are boldly frosted and the fields are semi-reflective. Probably only 100 to 150 Proof 1858 Small Letters Flying Eagle cents exist, and the median grade for these is Proof-64 as offered here. The

1858 Small Letters in Proof format is much rarer than the 1856 Flying Eagle, and exceeds the availability of the 1857 and 1858 Large Letters only by a slim margin. Despite the tiny Proof mintage, die varieties exist which are detailed by Rick Snow in his books on the series.

PCGS# 2043. NGC ID: 227D.

Gem 1877 Proof-66 RD Indian Cent



10110 1877 Proof-66 RD (PCGS). OGH. Vivid orange-olive surfaces highlight this important key date Proof Indian cent. It is fully struck, vibrant in finish, and has a touch of reddish-rose tinting in the center of the reverse to enhance the strong eye appeal. The Proof mintage of 900 pieces listed in the *Guide Book* is thought by Dave Bowers to be several hundred pieces less than reality. However, the present cataloger, looking at population reports, feels that a 900-piece distribution is reasonable. It's difficult to imagine

finding more than just a few 1877 Proofs that could approach the freshly-minted appearance of this beauty. The 1877 has long been esteemed as the key issue in the Indian cent series and demand for Proofs has long been strengthened by the paucity of Mint State circulation strikes, which seem to be approximately equal in rarity with Proofs.

PCGS# 2320. NGC ID: 229W.

PCGS Population: 11; 2 finer (Proof-67 RD finer), within RD designation.

Sharp MS-65 RD 1886 Cent

Type II Obverse



10111 1886 Type II Obverse, MS-65 RD (PCGS). Bright pinkish luster shimmers from the satiny surfaces of this bold Gem. A strong strike has rendered the complexion frosted and remarkably matte-like. Mint State pieces having the Type II obverse are much scarcer than those having the Type I obverse. The most reasonable explanation for this is that the

Type II mintage was lower. Only a few hundred Mint State Type II examples have been certified and most of these are in the MS-63 to MS-64 category. Gem-quality pieces within the RD designation are decidedly rare.

PCGS# 92156. NGC ID: 228E.

PCGS Population: 8; 4 finer (MS-66 finest within the RD designation).

Gem Full Red 1909-S V.D.B. Cent

Top 1% of PCGS-Certified Population



10112 1909-S Lincoln, V.D.B. MS-66+ RD (PCGS). A warm red-orange glow is accentuated with pinkish tones throughout this iconic numismatic favorite. Sharply impressed and exhibiting a lustrous matte-like complexion on both sides. The long-running Lincoln Cent series made its debut in 1909 during the 100th anniversary of the late president's birth. The first batch of Lincoln cents struck in San Francisco display the designer's initials V.D.B. (for Victor David Brenner) at the bottom reverse border. The initials were regarded as too conspicuous by some, and consequently were omitted from reverse dies shipped to San Francisco later in the same year.

When the Mint later restored the V.D.B. initials in 1918, they were well hidden on the obverse along the truncation of Lincoln's portrait. Only 484,000 examples of the 1909-S V.D.B. Lincoln Cent were produced, a small production figure by 20th century standards; this perception of rarity fueled the public's fascination with the coin, something that has continued down to the present day. Although PCGS has certified more than 2,000 examples within the RD designation, only 20 of them are graded as MS-66+ or finer.

PCGS# 2428. NGC ID: 22B2.

PCGS: 9, 11 finer (MS-67 finest within the RD designation)

Important Gem 1909-S/S Cent Tied For Finest Graded at PCGS



10113 1909-S/S Lincoln. FS-1502. S/Horizontal S. MS-66+ RD (PCGS). Warm golden copper with subtle accents of rose. Extraordinary cartwheels of luster on both sides create dramatic visual appeal. Sharply struck with the curious mintmark error easily seen, though the dies are worn and there are many radial flowlines on both sides. A desirable

variety and rarely seen this nice. In fact, just two have been graded this high by PCGS and there are none finer. A prime candidate for a high-end Registry Set or any collection of high-grade Lincoln cents.

PCGS# 92434. NGC ID: 22B4.

PCGS Population: 2; none finer.

Lovely 1912-S Cent Tied as Finest Certified



10114 1912-S MS-66 RB (PCGS). Warm golden-orange radiance glows on this stunning San Francisco Mint Gem. The motifs are impressively sharp and orange-peel fields can be seen on both sides. Although hundreds of Mint State 1912-S cents have been encapsulated by the certification services, the great majority are MS-63 to MS-64 coins. Gems are scarce,

and examples grading MS-66 are all but unobtainable. Neither service has graded a single example at the MS-67 level, and nothing finer has been reported.

PCGS# 2457. NGC ID: 22BC.

PCGS Population: 5; none finer (within all color designations)

Classic 1922 No D Cent

Important Condition Rarity



10115 1922 No D Strong Reverse. FS-401. Die Pair II. Strong Reverse. MS-63 BN (PCGS). The deep chocolate-brown patina of this Choice numismatic blunder is adorned by lilac and magenta pastels throughout. Nicely impressed and displaying a satiny complexion that brings life to this charming Brown example. A few thousand examples of the variety are known to exist, mostly plucked from circulation years (perhaps decades) subsequent to the time of issue. Examples grading MS-60 and finer are rare, amounting to just a few dozen examples. No cents were struck at the Philadelphia or San Francisco mints in 1922,

and theoretically all 1922-dated obverses should have had a "D" mintmark, but due to carelessness, the mintmark was omitted from one of the obverse dies shipped to the Denver Mint, where the anomaly presumably remained unnoticed. By the late 1950s, the 1922 No D had become a favorite with collectors and commanded high premiums as indicated by collector guides such as *Wayte Raymond's Standard Catalogue of United States Coins*.

PCGS# 3285. NGC ID: 22C9.

PCGS Population: 15; 10 finer (MS-65 finest within all designations).

Extremely Rare 1969-S Doubled Die Cent

PCGS-Certified MS-62 RB



10116 1969-S FS-101. Doubled Die Obverse. MS-62 RB (PCGS). Secure Holder. A vibrant red-orange complexion is accented by subtle teal hues in select areas across this dramatic Mint State blunder. A handsome strike has rendered the devices boldly intricate, and notions of handling are left virtually absent. The 1969-S Double Die Obverse is an extremely desirable variety having an estimated population of 40 to 50 pieces based on combined certification service statistics. Our estimate might be a little too high as the experts at PCGS opine "about 30 known"; Fivaz and Stanton posit an even lower number of "17 to 32" specimens. The doubling on

this variety is very dramatic, fully matching the spectacular appearance of a 1955 Doubled Die, but in the case of the 1969-S, perhaps 100 times rarer. Quoting from Fivaz and Stanton's *Cherry-pickers' Guide*: "The publicity this coin has received over its lifetime has been enormous, hence the very high values, which are well deserved." According to Breen, the variety was independently reported by two collectors in June and July of 1970.

PCGS# 2922. NGC ID: 22GJ.

PCGS Population 3; 2 finer (MS-64 finest within the RB designation); PCGS has encapsulated a total of 13 pieces as Uncirculated, possibly including some repeat appearances.

Virtually Flawless Proof 1990 No S Cent Tied as Finest Certified by PCGS



10117 1990 No S. FS-101. Proof-69 RD Deep Cameo (PCGS). A brilliant red-orange glow enhances the virtually flawless surfaces of this Deep Cameo blunder. The fields exhibit a watery reflectivity and gracefully suspend the richly frosted devices throughout. The 1990 No S Proof cent ranks as one of the most desirable blundered die varieties of the 20th century. Perhaps 250 to 350 examples were issued before the blunder was discovered and the die removed from

service. Our estimate is based on combined population data, but other estimates place the population at an even lower figure. Fivaz and Stanton in the most recent edition of their *Cherrypickers' Guide* assign the URS-6 rarity rating signifying a supply of just 17 to 32 coins, a number that seems far too low in our opinion.

PCGS# 93506. NGC ID: 274B.

PCGS Population: 31; none finer.

SILVER THREE-CENT PIECES

Choice Proof 1854 Silver Three-Cents Rarity



10118 1854 Proof-64 (PCGS). A gorgeous mottling of indigo and golden pastels is backlit by satiny luster throughout this charming near-Gem. The fields exhibit a watery reflectivity and work to handsomely emphasize the frosted and bold devices on both sides. From the first year of Type II coinage in the denomination and the first year of .900 fine silver coinage for the design type. A rare prize in any grade. The number struck is unknown today, but it was possibly on the order of just several dozen pieces; PCGS suggests only 25 to 30 pieces can be accounted for today. Of the PCGS-

certified examples, the present little trime ranks high in their *Population Report*. The number of pieces at Proof-64, as here, is substantial enough to suggest a resubmission or two have occurred. No matter the number known, one thing is certain — the issue is rare enough that it may be some time before any interested parties find another Proof of the date in a comparable grade. Take that into account when you place your bids.

PCGS# 3701. NGC ID: 27BZ.

PCGS Population: 11; 3 finer (Proof-66 finest). One of the 11 is designated "+" by PCGS.

Superlative Gem Proof 1855 Trime



10119 1855 Proof-66 Cameo (PCGS). Concentric rings of rainbow iridescence paint the watery and reflective fields across this attractive Cameo Proof, leaving the boldly frosted motifs to bathe in a champagne-gold luster. The second year of Proof silver three-cent pieces, the mintage figures are not known, but the Flynn and Zack reference estimates between 45 and 55 were struck, with perhaps half that number still extant.

The date is repunched on the Proof coin and the obverse die was later reused for circulation strike pieces, as well. Very rarely offered in the numismatic marketplace and command attention when they do appear. A superlative example of a seldom seen issue.

PCGS# 83702. NGC ID: 27C2.

PCGS Population: 1; 1 finer with this designation.

Superb Gem Uncirculated 1855 Three-Cent Silver

Among the Finest Seen



10120 1855 MS-66 (PCGS). Cartwheeling champagne luster dances across the nicely untouched surfaces of this attractive Gem. From a relatively small mintage for the date of 139,000 pieces, far and away the smallest production run in the denomination until the 1863 mintage. This short-lived denomination was authorized by Congress in March, 1851, and gave up the ghost in 1873 after the series was discontinued when the Coinage Act of February 12, 1873 was signed by President Grant. The Act of 1873 was known as the "Crime of '73" by those who supported the

purchase of silver by the government on a statutory basis. It also ended the two-cent piece, half dime, and silver dollar as denominations, and effectively placed the country on the gold standard. The present coin is nearly as fine as you will ever see in a PCGS holder, and we are definitely a fan of the overall physical and aesthetic quality of the present Gem. If a world-class collection of trimes is your goal, you will be one step closer with the acquisition of this beauty.

PCGS# 3671. NGC ID: 22Z4.

PCGS Population: 6; 1 finer (MS-67).

Exquisite Proof 1856 Trime



10121 1856 Proof-66 (PCGS). A charming patchwork of die polishing (as struck) occupies the glassy obverse fields, providing a lively backdrop for the bold devices to juxtapose. Blue and golden iridescence drapes the untouched surfaces on both sides, imparting an attractive aesthetic that comes to life under a light source. Very few people were made aware that Proof 1856 silver three-cent pieces were available,

and as a result, the mintage was extremely limited. By most estimates, only 70 to 80 coins were sold and approximately 60 of those specimens are presently known in numismatic circles. An outstanding opportunity to add one of the finest known examples of this extraordinary rarity.

PCGS# 3703. NGC ID: 27C3.

PCGS Population: 1, none finer at this service.

Gem Uncirculated 1856 Three-Cent Silver

Tied for Finest Certified at PCGS



10122 1856 MS-66 (PCGS). Mostly brilliant but exhibiting traces of golden toning in areas, this beautiful Gem offers a lively matte-like complexion across both sides. An exceptional Gem trime at every turn, and rightfully among the finest examples of the date seen by us and PCGS. Despite the mintage for the date of more than 1.4 million pieces, the

population in the high Mint State range is thin at best with fewer than two dozen MS-65 on the PCGS roster, and fewer yet at the assigned grade. Ideally suited to an advanced collection of the type or a high-grade U.S. type set.

PCGS# 3672. NGC ID: 22Z5.

PCGS Population: 4; none finer. One of the four is designated "+" by PCGS.

Beautiful Gem Proof 1857 Trime



10123 1857 Proof-66 (PCGS). A pleasing reflectivity penetrates through the teal and amber hues that occupy the fields across this original Gem Proof. The devices are remarkably well struck, and subtle areas of die polish remain a testament to the preparation required for such an elegant complexion. PCGS suggests a total mintage of 75 coins - all part of silver

Proof sets - but current research points to a production figure closer to 100. The early Proof trimes were carefully struck and are tiny jewels of an overall scarce type. Perfect for a premier level type collection.

PCGS# 3704. NGC ID: 27C4.

PCGS Population: 4; none finer at this service.

A Second Exceptional Proof 1857 Trime



10124 1857 Proof-66 (PCGS). A subtle pinkish aura accompanies deep navy-blue iridescence across this premium Gem Proof. Well struck throughout and exhibiting nicely reflective fields on both sides. Proof coin production records at the Mint were incomplete at best, but research by Flynn and Zack into the sales records indicate that 100 to 110 Proof

1857 silver three-cent pieces were sold. Many fewer survive and are cherished examples of the scarcer Type II trime. A noteworthy piece for the silver three-cent specialist.

PCGS# 3704. NGC ID: 27C4.

PCGS Population: 4; none finer at this service.

Among the Finest Known Proof 1858 Trimes



10125 1858 Proof-67 (PCGS). Remarkably bold central devices occupy the epicenter of a purple, teal, and golden explosion that radiates across this Superb Gem Proof. A light source intensifies this eruption, while simultaneously exposing the virtually pristine nature of the gorgeous surfaces on both sides. The final year of the Type II trime, the mintage figures were not recorded at the time. While the PCGS Coin Facts site indicates a figure of 100, the best estimate comes from a letter quoted by Q. David Bowers in *American Numismatics*

Before the Civil War which stated that 210 silver Proof sets were produced. The coiner was particularly careless with the obverse die, taking away a portion of the lower star border and failing to polish some areas around the date. A numismatic delight sure to charm the silver three-cent piece specialist.

PCGS# 3705. NGC ID: 27C5.

PCGS Population: 2; none finer at this service.

Condition Census Proof 1860 Trime



10126 1860 Proof-67+ (PCGS). Each side of this virtually flawless Trime is graced by an iridescent sunrise of oranges and blues that eventually reaches a brilliance at the lower periphery. The devices are left well struck and heavily frosted, imparting a substantial Cameo contrast on the obverse. While 1,000 pieces were struck in 1860, slightly more than half were actually sold. Records show that 538 Proof sets were sold with a few additional stray sales afterwards. All

the unsold pieces were melted down, so far fewer than the original mintage ended up in collections. Generally well struck, a number of Gem specimens are known, but a mere handful at the Superb Gem Proof level. Among the finest known specimens from a remarkable issue.

PCGS# 3709. NGC ID: 27C7.

PCGS Population: 1; none finer at this service.

Superlative Cameo Proof 1862 Trime



10127 1862 Proof-67+ Cameo (PCGS). A warm golden radiance cools to indigo tones at the borders of this immaculate Cameo Proof. The motifs are blanketed in rich Mint frosting and delicately float among the watery, reflective fields on both sides. The mintage figures for the Proof 1862 silver three-cent piece dropped almost by half from the previous year. Mint Director James Pollock decided to stop producing 1,000 Proof sets at the outset before orders from

collectors appeared. According to the records, 550 Proof sets were produced, of which 430 sets were sold initially and a handful sold later on. Any unsold coins were destroyed. The trimes that that were produced were of very high quality and a number of Cameo examples are known. A remarkable survivor and among the finest known.

PCGS# 83711. NGC ID: 27C9.

PCGS Population: 1, none finer with this designation.

Toned Gem Proof 1863/2 Silver Three-Cent Piece



10128 1863/2 Proof-66+ (PCGS). Gold and pinkish centers are surrounded by electric cyan highlights across this spectacular overdate Proof. The fields are remarkably reflective and entirely untouched, harboring bold and satiny motifs throughout. The *Red Book* lists this date as the "So-called 1863/2," as evidently not all collectors and specialists are convinced of its overdate status. That said, there are plenty of collectors in pursuit of this variety, but only a very

few will ever have the opportunity to own an example in Gem Proof condition. Your opportunity is presented here, and we hope serious bidders will take advantage of this offering.

PCGS# 3713. NGC ID: 22ZP.

PCGS Population: 3; none finer within the Proof designation. One of the three has been designated "+" by PCGS. We note three Cameo Proofs of the date at Proof-66, one of those designated "+," and a solitary Proof-67 Cameo in the roster at PCGS with nothing finer in any designation.

One of the Finest Known Proof 1863 Trimes



10129 1863 Proof-67+ Cameo (PCGS). A vibrant rainbow saturation encircles the frosty central devices on both sides of this stunning Cameo Proof. Demand for Proof coins during the Civil War was not high and, as a result, the net mintage of 460 Proof silver three-cent pieces does not include examples that were melted as unsold. Fortunately, the ones that were sold were generally well preserved and a

few Gem examples are known. In general, the issue was very well produced and Cameo examples are more available than for some of the other dates in the series. Superlative in every respect and destined for the finest of collections.

PCGS# 83712. NGC ID: 22ZP.

PCGS Population: 3, none finer with this designation.

Outstanding Cameo Proof 1864 Silver Three-Cents Tied For Finest Seen by PCGS



10130 1864 Proof-67 Cameo (PCGS). The glassy mirrors of this Superb Gem offer a stunning Cameo contrast when paired against the richly frosted devices on both sides. An especially choice and attractive specimen that sits at the top of the PCGS on-line *Population Report*, see below. At 470 pieces, this date shows one of the lowest Proof production figures in the series according to the *Red Book*. The Civil War was raging at the time of production yet, surprisingly, hundreds of Proofs of the date were sold in sets and as individual pieces. The economy may have been in a shambles at the

time, but collectors still flocked to the Mint to maintain their collecting needs. Thanks to a collector of old, the present trime was purchased and maintained in its near pristine grade, then handed down from collector to collector for the next 150 years, all the while maintaining its Gem integrity. Choice and appealing and worthy of a premium bid.

PCGS# 83714. NGC ID: 27CA.

PCGS Population: 2; none finer within any Proof designation. One of the two is designated "+" by PCGS.

Impressive Gem Uncirculated 1866 Three-Cent Silver



10131 1866 MS-67 (PCGS). This gorgeous trime exhibits a pleasing semi-prooflike contrast between the frosty devices and smooth fields on both sides. A combination of die polishing and clash marks, as struck, instills an element of unique character to the surfaces of this attractive Superb Gem. By 1866 any pressing need for this denomination had fallen by the wayside and only small press runs occurred for the remainder of the series. Indeed, the 22,000 examples

struck in 1866 for intended circulation represents the *largest* production figure for any date, 1863 through 1872; in 1873 only Proofs were struck. Physical quality and aesthetic charm both score high with the present coin; if these are the criteria you look for in your collecting pursuits, you need look no farther than this splendid specimen.

PCGS# 3686. NGC ID: 22ZG.

PCGS Population: 10; 1 finer (MS-68). One of the 10 is designated "+" by PCGS.

Outstanding Mint State 1867 Trime



10132 1867 MS-66 (PCGS). A subdued slate-gray luster comes to life with emerald and golden highlights when this beautiful Gem is viewed at a tilt. Impressively lustrous and well struck throughout. Despite mint records showing that 4,000 silver three-cent pieces were struck in 1867, the issue was so rare that it was once thought to be Proof only. Collecting preferences at the time of production gravitated towards obtaining Proof examples of dates, so very few of

the circulation strikes were preserved. What few that remain today are generally in middle to higher circulated grades and are a notable condition rarity in Mint State. Above Gem Mint State, the issue is excessively rare - neither service has graded a single specimen finer than MS-66. A top of the line rarity for the silver three-cent piece connoisseur.

PCGS# 3687. NGC ID: 22ZH.

PCGS Population: 2; none finer at this service.

Gem Cameo Proof 1868 Silver Three-Cents

No Cameo Certified Finer at PCGS



10133 1868 Proof-67 Cameo (PCGS). Lustrous central brilliance is encircled by prismatic shades of blue and violet on this Superb Gem Proof. A gorgeous “Top-Pop” example with sharp motifs and reflective fields throughout. The *Guide Book* suggests a Proof mintage for the date of 600 pieces, though that figure probably refers to silver Proof sets and may not take into account pieces sold individually. Be that as it may, the population of Gem Proofs of the date is meager at best, see below, and pleasing Gems are but few and far between in the numismatic marketplace. To pass on this offering may

mean a nearly interminable time before prospective bidders ever encounter another Proof of the date in comparable condition. Indeed, we wouldn't be surprised to find that the few comparable pieces are already ensconced in advanced collections. Is this your only opportunity to acquire a piece of this caliber? Perhaps not, but are you willing to take that risk? Please bid as though you mean it for this prize.

PCGS# 83718. NGC ID: 27CE.

PCGS Population: 2; none finer within the Cameo designation. We note three non-cameo Proof-66 examples in the firm's roster.

Gorgeous Gem Mint State 1868 Trime

Tied for Finest Graded at PCGS



10134 1868 MS-66 (PCGS). A subtle prooflike reflectivity enhances the fields of this beautiful Gem. Golden hues intermingle with lilac suggestions, instilling a gentle pastel patina across the satiny devices. Only 3,500 circulation strikes of the date were produced, with those pieces released by the Mint probably hoarded the moment they showed up in commerce — if they showed up at all. According to the *Red Book*, most of the circulation strike trimes made

from 1863 onward were melted in 1873 at the demise of the denomination. That such a fine silver three-cents of the date exists is most likely a matter of chance hoarding, plus the good fortune to have been handled by caring numismatists along the way on its trip into the 21st Century. As fine as you'll find in a PCGS holder. Have at it collectors!

PCGS# 3688. NGC ID: 22ZJ.

PCGS Population: 4; none finer.

Superb Mint State 1869/8 Silver Trime



10135 1869/8 MS-67 (PCGS). OGH—First Generation. Peripheral oranges result in deeper blues at the centers of this beautiful, yet dubious, overdate. The devices are richly frosted and without a single notion of handling, leading one to wonder what lofty grade it might receive if resubmitted today.

The silver three-cent piece declined in use significantly after the Civil War, so much so that only 4,500 were struck in 1869. This particular variety is particularly intriguing and has been the source of debate. Originally described by some as an overdate, this variety is now generally considered to be

a repunched 9. Only this single specimen has been graded with the overdate designation by PCGS and none have been certified by NGC at all. The overdate is also described in Proof, of which PCGS has certified three such pieces, yet, this, too is mostly thought to be a repunched date variety. The issue alone is scarce as a Superb Gem regardless; PCGS has only graded one example at MS-67 and one at MS-68. One thing that is certain is that this is a magnificent jewel of a rare issue.

PCGS# 3690. NGC ID: 22ZK.

PCGS Population: 1; none finer.

Astonishing Finest Known Proof 1869 Trime



10136 1869 Proof-68 Cameo (NGC). A snowy brilliance cloaks the central devices of this stunning trime, eventually saturating into violet and pinkish tones at the borders. Well struck and entirely untouched throughout, the nicely reflective surfaces make this a truly wonderful example to experienced in-hand! The Proof production figures for the silver three-cent piece towards the end of the denomination's existence were

reasonably large. 600 were struck in 1869 and were sold exclusively in sets. NGC has recorded 175 grading events for this issue, the majority of which are at the Proof-64 level. For the collector who demands the finest, look no further.

PCGS# 83719. NGC ID: 22ZR.

NGC Census: 1; none finer in this or any designation.

Gem Proof-67 1871 Trime

Among the Finest Certified



10137 1871 Proof-67 (PCGS). Concentric bands of electric cerulean-blue and pink frame boldly reflective centers of silvery-white with fully struck, razor sharp devices. Despite a *Guide Book* listed mintage figure of 960 Proofs, combined population data suggest a surviving supply closer

to the 700-piece level. Most examples are in the Proof-63 to 64 range, and Gems are rare. Less than 2% of the PCGS-certified population grades Proof-67 or finer.

PCGS# 3722. NGC ID: 27CG.

PCGS Population: 5; 2 finer (Proof-68 finest within all designations).

Gem Proof 1872 Silver Three-Cents



10138 1872 Proof-67 Cameo (PCGS). Lively brilliance is accompanied by peripheral indigo hues on both sides of this stunning Cameo Proof. The razor-sharp motifs are aggressively emphasized by rich, snowy frosting dramatically projecting from the deeply mirrored fields throughout. One of 950 Proofs of the date struck according to the *Guide Book*, against a circulation strike mintage for the date of just 1,000 pieces representing the final circulation strike in the series.

One would expect Proofs of the date to be prolific in the numismatic marketplace, but such is not the case. The Proof population for the date, cameo or not, is modest across the board and thins dramatically above Proof-65. The present specimen is a pleasure to behold and is rightfully pegged by PCGS as one of the finest Cameo Proofs of the date extant.

PCGS# 83723. NGC ID: 26G7.

PCGS Population: 2; none finer within the Cameo designation. We do note three non-cameo pieces at Proof-67, and two non-cameo Proofs at Proof-68.

Vivid Superb Gem 1872 Trime



10139 1872 MS-67 (PCGS). The viewer is greeted by a dramatic cameo contrast on the obverse of this Superb Gem, supplied by heavily frosted motifs that continue throughout. A light pearlescence transitions to a deeper violet iridescence on the reverse of this attractive Trime, delivering a dynamic aesthetic that is inspiring from any direction. 1872 was the last year for circulation strike silver three-cent pieces and the penultimate year for Proof specimens. Just 1000 circulation

strike pieces were made, the lowest of the entire series, and very few remain today in such a lofty state of preservation. Indeed, Just 10 coins at PCGS are MS-65 or finer, and just a single example (MS-67+) is finer than the present piece. Destined for the finest silver three-cent piece cabinet, we expect to see spirited bidding on this lot.

PCGS# 3693. NGC ID: 22ZN.

PCGS Population: 2; 3 finer.

Condition Census Proof 1873 Trime



10140 1873 Proof-67 Cameo (PCGS). Electric-blue iridescence encircles vivid violet hues across both sides of this gorgeous Cameo Proof. The central devices exhibit rich Mint frosting and pair nicely with the abyss offered by the reflective fields. 1873 proved to be the swan song for the silver three-cent piece. Struck only in Proof format, only 600 pieces were produced before production for the denomination ended

for good, all of which with the Close 3 logotype. This issue is highly prized as the last of its type and also as part of a complete 1873 coin set. Highly sought after as the final year of issue, here is a treasure sure to please the advanced collector.

PCGS# 83724. NGC ID: 275U.

PCGS Population: 3; none finer at this service.

NICKEL FIVE-CENT PIECES

Gem Proof Deep Cameo 1866 Nickel

Only Four Coins Designated DCAM by PCGS



10141 1866 Rays. Proof-66 Deep Cameo (PCGS). Delicate silvery devices float on watery and bottomless fields across this gorgeous first-year example. Well struck and nicely frosted throughout, a subtle champagne glow contributes just the right amount of color to this untouched Deep Cameo Proof. Although the Mintage for the issue is uncertain, being listed in the *Guide Book* as “600+” pieces, it appears from certification data that the mintage was probably quite close

to the *Guide Book* figure, probably between 600 and 800 coins, all told. The median grade for the issue appears to be in the Proof-64 to 65 range. Moreover, scarcely more than 1% of the examples certified by PCGS have been awarded a *Deep Cameo* designation (a scant four coins).

PCGS# 93817. NGC ID: 276G.

PCGS: 2; 2 finer (Proof-67 finest within the Deep Cameo designation)

Sparkling Gem Proof 1867 Rays Shield Nickel

Key Issue in the Series



10142 1867 Rays. Proof-65 (PCGS). OGH. Exquisite surfaces exhibit a few horizontal streaks of pinkish rose iridescence along with considerable brilliance. A marked cameo finish goes unmentioned on the old style PCGS insert. This is a beautiful example of a rare and highly desirable issue. The original mintage has long been estimated as quite low, but more recent research leads us to believe it was fewer

than 100 pieces — remarkably struck at different times and reflected by four die pairings. Today, PCGS estimates that only about 60 individual examples exist, the presently offered piece being near the top of group in terms of both technical quality and eye appeal.

PCGS# 3818.

PCGS Population: 12; 3 finer (Proof-66 finest).

Amazing Cameo Proof 1867 No Rays Nickel

Struck from Pattern Reverse Die



10143 1867 No Rays. Pattern Reverse. Proof-66 Cameo (PCGS). Delightful champagne-gold iridescence drifts over both sides of this vibrant and highly reflective Gem. Razor sharp strike, with good contrast between the fields and devices that readily upholds the validity of the CAM designation from PCGS. Only a handful of these are known currently, and doubtless not many more will be discovered as the reverse is easy to identify. On this particular coin, the stars point between the letters EN and TS of CENTS while on the regular issue No Rays Proofs the stars point down the upright posts of E and T of that word. It is the location of the reverse stars that confirms this die's prior use to strike some of the pattern issues of the Shield nickel series. Apparently

the Proof die was in good condition after making the rare pattern coins, and the coiner determined that it was suitable to make additional Proof coins, these of the regular issue coins to be sold to collectors. No one noticed these rare mulings of a regular Proof die with a pattern reverse die until recently, and research through prior offerings found very few of these exist. As this important die variety becomes more publicized the demand will certainly exceed the meager supply. Here is what is likely the finest example of this issue known, and one that would mean a major step forward to even the most advanced specialist in the series.

PCGS# 519407.

PCGS Population: just 1; none are finer in the Cameo category, and there are no DCAMs certified for the variety.

Outstanding Gem 1873 Open 3 Shield Nickel



10144 1873 Open 3. MS-66+ (PCGS). Satiny surfaces with exceptionally lively cartwheel luster on both sides. Mostly brilliant, with just a trace of soft golden rose toning. Beautifully made, and among the few finest known survivors of the date. Neither PCGS nor NGC have graded any examples of this date finer than this one. In fact, PCGS has

only two additional grading records at this level, and NGC has graded none that equal this one. A prime candidate for a Registry Set or any collector seeking the best available.

PCGS# 3800. NGC ID: 276C.

PCGS Population: 3; none finer.

Stunning Proof 1876 Nickel

Sole Finest Ultra Cameo Certified



10145 1876 Proof-68 Ultra Cameo (NGC). A snowy brilliance blankets the serene surfaces of this angelic Ultra Cameo Proof. An impressive strike has deposited rich Mint frosting atop the bold devices, generating a breathtaking facade when paired against icy fields on both sides. These 1876 Proofs appear to have been carefully handled at the time of issue, with the result that the median grade for certified examples is in the Proof-64 to 65 range. Examples grading Proof-67 or finer or rare, and a scant two examples have been awarded

a Proof-68 designation by NGC, including this coin (*Ultra Cameo*); the other piece designated as *Cameo*. The finest Proof 1876 nickel certified by PCGS is a Proof-67+ *Cameo*. Importantly, fewer than 3% of the 1876 Proofs certified by NGC have been awarded an *Ultra Cameo* designation.

PCGS# 93830. NGC ID: 276T.

NGC Census: 1; none finer within the *Ultra Cameo* designation; NGC has certified a total of two examples as Proof-68, the other coin designated as *Cameo*.

Superb Deep Cameo Proof 1876 Shield Nickel



10146 1876 Proof-67 Deep Cameo (PCGS). This is a simply outstanding example of both the issue and the type. The fields are extremely reflective and form a splendid backdrop to satiny, razor sharp devices. Free of all but the lightest silvery-gold toning, the surfaces are virtually pristine. The year 1876 is an extremely popular one among numismatic collectors since it marks the centennial for United States independence. It is likely that the Mint received more orders than usual among contemporary Americans given the historical significance of this year, although fewer specimens were preserved when compared with other dates

in the Proof Shield nickel series. A number of 1876 Proofs exhibit Cameo contrast, in keeping with the high quality production techniques employed by the Philadelphia Mint during the 1870s, but only a tiny percentage of survivors possess enough field to device contrast to support a Deep Cameo designation. When it comes to technical quality and eye appeal, it simply doesn't get any better than this in a Proof 1876 nickel.

PCGS# 93830. NGC ID: 26F6.

PCGS Population: only 1; and none are finer in any category.

From the Just Having Fun Collection.

The Childs-JHF Specimen of the Proof-Only 1877 Shield Nickel



10147 1877 Proof-67 Cameo (PCGS). Delectable bright silver surfaces are as fresh and inviting as the day the coin emerged from the dies. The estimated mintage for this issue as reported by Q. David Bowers (*A Guide Book of Shield and Liberty Head Nickels*, 2006) is 1,250 to 1,500 pieces, and from that issue only approximately 575 examples are known today (according to the numismatic experts at *PCGS CoinFacts*). The present coin is tied with at most five others as the highest graded by PCGS in any category, and as such has legitimate claim to the title of finest known 1877 Shield nickel.

While mintage figures of circulation strike Shield nickels were substantial during much of the 1860s and early 1870s, between 1877 and 1881 there was little need for these coins in commerce, and yearly deliveries dropped accordingly. The reason for this is that in 1876, vast quantities of silver coins that had been hoarded by the public since the spring

of 1862 suddenly became available in commerce in quantity. With large numbers of half dimes, dimes, quarters and the like flooding banks and merchants, demand for nickel five-cent pieces plummeted to basal levels. In 1877, in fact, the Mint limited coinage of Shield nickels to Proofs struck solely for distribution to contemporary collectors; none were issued for circulation. The 1877 nickel three-cent piece is also a Proof-only affair, and the 1877 Indian cent saw a limited circulation strike mintage of just 852,500 pieces — the lowest yearly production for this denomination recorded since 1823. The 1870s was certainly a trying decade for the United States Mint, and few coins could better represent these tumultuous times than a Proof 1877 Shield nickel.

PCGS# 83831. NGC ID: 276U.

PCGS Population: just 7; 0 finer.

From the Just Having Fun Collection. Earlier from our (Bowers and Merena's) sale of the Walter H. Childs Collection, August 1999, lot 114. Acquired directly from the Mint by Walter H. Childs.

Important Gem Mint State 1880 Shield Nickel Tied for Finest Known



10148 1880 MS-66 (PCGS). Secure Holder. Vibrant satin white surfaces and a full strike make it difficult for us to imagine a more technically sound and visually appealing example of this key date Shield nickel. The mintage reported for circulation strikes came in at a paltry 16,000 pieces for the year, Others estimate as many as 21,000 were struck, however nearly the entire mintage slipped into circulation and in time became lost. Today, numismatic experts at *CoinFacts* estimate that only 100 exist in all grades of these circulation strike coins, a tiny fraction of Proofs known of this date. Thus, for the numismatist seeking an example of this incredibly rare issue, a number of minute die markers must be confirmed to verify that the coin was originally struck for circulation purposes.

A strong loupe can aid in the confirmation as to which die pairing was used to create a specific coin, especially in high grades like this outstanding Gem. Q. David Bowers in his *Guide Book to Shield and Liberty Nickels* notes that

two 1880 dated obverse dies were “used intermittently for the circulation and Proof strikes.” Therefore, the obverse die alone is not a determining factor as many Mint State coins exhibit reflectivity, while some of the Proofs are satiny in appearance. The circulation strikes recognized by experts today exhibit a single reverse die with three important diagnostic features:

- 1 - Upper left side of the first S in STATES is doubled or slightly repunched
- 2 - A small raised lump appears below the second T in STATES in the field, from a die pit or rust in the field.
- 3 - A thin engraver’s scratch or die line extends up from the center of a dentil located below and between the TS of CENTS.

PCGS# 3810. NGC ID: 276E.

PCGS Population: just 2; none finer.

Ex: *Just Having Fun Collection*.

Spectacular Proof-68 Cameo 1882 Nickel

Sole Finest Example Certified by PCGS



10149 1882 Proof-68 Cameo (PCGS). Collectors seeking the absolute best will have to look no further than this gorgeous Cameo Proof example! A subtle medley of rainbow pastels blankets each side, nicely complimenting the glassy and untouched underlying fields. The devices are as sharp and as heavily frosted as one could imagine, flirting with a notion of perfection that is often elusive on any Shield issue. A remarkable Superb Gem that must be experience in-hand

to truly appreciate! Although nearly 2,000 Proofs have been encapsulated by the two major certification services, the great majority of these are in the range from Proof-64 to 66. PCGS-certified coins grading Proof-67 are decidedly rare, and a solitary Proof-68 specimen (this identical coin) has been awarded the ethereal Proof-68 designation.

PCGS# 83837. NGC ID: 276Y.

PCGS: 1; none finer within all designations.

A Second Remarkable 1882 Proof Nickel



10150 1882 Proof-67+ Deep Cameo (PCGS). CAC. This is a simply gorgeous Superb Gem, both sides sharply struck with strong Deep Cameo contrast between the fields and devices. The surfaces are untoned and free of grade limiting blemishes, and the eye appeal is exceptional. Although this is one of the more plentiful Proof issues in the Shield nickel

series, the technical and aesthetic quality of the present example establish it as a Condition Census survivor that is earmarked for inclusion in the finest cabinet.

PCGS# 93837. NGC ID: 276Y.

PCGS Population: just 1; and none are finer.

From the Just Having Fun Collection.

Gem Premium 1885 Five-Cents

Top 2% of Certified Population



10151 1885 MS-66 (PCGS). This low-mintage rarity exhibits tremendous intricacy to the devices on both sides, with delicate die polish lines (as struck) visible in select areas. The pristine surfaces exhibit lively color. Apart from the exceedingly rare 1913, the 1885 is the undisputed *king* of the Liberty nickel series. Not only does it have the lowest mintage of the design type prior to 1912, but it is demonstrably scarce in all grades from AG to Mint State. Although a few hundred Uncirculated examples were set aside by collectors at the time of issue, the vast majority (probably more than

99%) remained in circulation for decades only to be culled in the 1930s. Today, probably only about 2,500 to 3,500 exist in all grades (opinion of the cataloger), a population that's vastly smaller than 1% of the original production figure. MS-64 is the median grade for Uncirculated examples in PCGS holders, and only a handful of specimens can be accounted for at the MS-66 level.

PCGS# 3846. NGC ID: 2773.

PCGS Population: 22; 5 finer (MS-67 finest).

Important Circulation Strike 1886 Nickel

Among the Finest Certified



10152 1886 MS-66 (PCGS). This lustrous key-date delivers a lively pearlescent complexion, exhibiting an impressively thorough strike that is sometimes hard to encounter on this popular issue. The devices are boldly frosted, with a pleasing orange-peel texture gracing Liberty's portrait on the obverse. Although a few hundred Uncirculated 1886 nickels were set aside at the time of issue by collectors of the era, most of the available supply ranges from MS-62 to MS-64. Gems are

rare, and pieces grading MS-66 or finer are extremely rare. Neither service has reported so much as a single example at the MS-67 level. Notably, the 1886 appears to be the single rarest Liberty Nickel issue at the MS-66 level, eclipsing both the 1885 and 1912-S.

PCGS# 3847. NGC ID: 22PK.

PCGS Population: 7; 1 finer (MS-66+)

Gem MS-66 1925-S Buffalo Nickel

Tied for Finest Certified



10153 1925-S MS-66 (NGC). A satiny dove-gray complexion is accented by faint violet hues throughout this charming Gem Buffalo. Boldly pronounced on both sides and exhibiting dramatic evidence of clashing at the Indian's throat on the obverse. A scarce and desirable issue in grades of VF and finer. Although several hundred Uncirculated examples have been accounted for, the vast majority of these are in

the MS-63 to 64 grade range. Gems are rare, and examples grading MS-66 are all but unobtainable. NGC has graded only two examples at the MS-66 level. PCGS has certified a sole MS-66. Neither service has encapsulated so much as a single MS-67, and nothing finer has been reported.

PCGS# 3956. NGC ID: 22S4.

NGC Census: 2; none finer.

HALF DIMES



10154 1792 LM-1, Judd-7, Pollock-7, the only known dies. Rarity-4. Silver. Reeded Edge. VF Details--Holed and Plugged (PCGS). Central golden hues fade to deeper emerald and violet tones at the peripheries of this iconic numismatic treasure. The obverse devices remain impressively bold and unobscured, despite the sparse appearance of old pinscratches. Similar shallow pinscratches traverse the lower reverse, but the motifs are left nicely discernible. Very close scrutiny exposes a reconstructed area including the LIB in LIBERTY on the obverse and the corresponding reverse legend. However, this ancient alteration has long sublimated into the overall aesthetic and remains mostly benign.

The issue of 1792 half dimes was struck in John Harper's cellar a block or so from the recently purchased property for the Philadelphia Mint, as the new Mint was not ready to strike coins just yet. The number coined was probably over 1,500 pieces, of which a few hundred exist today. These new 1792 half dimes were so important that Washington mentioned them in his address to Congress on November of 1792, hallmarking them as one of most important issues in American numismatics!

PCGS# 11020. NGC ID: 22ZS.

Aesthetically Pleasing 1797 Half Dime

15-Star Obverse



10155 1797 LM-1. Rarity-3. 15 Stars. AU-55 (NGC). This warmly toned example exhibits even dove gray patina over boldly defined features. It is an uncommonly well preserved, aesthetically pleasing example of this conditionally challenging type among early U.S. mint silver issues. The obverse has 15 stars arranged 8x7, representing the 15 states in the union up till June 1, 1796, when Tennessee was admitted as the 16th. By inference, this obverse die was probably made — but not used — prior to that time, presumably sitting idle in the coiner's vault for six months or more before being installed in a coinage press. At the

time that the obverse die was originally produced it is likely that only the first three digits were punched into the date (the second 7 is from an entirely different punch than the first). As the Small Eagle design type was restricted to the years 1796 and 1797, demand is especially high from type collectors. Auction listings and combined population statistics indicate that just a few dozen examples of LM-1 grading AU-55 or finer can be accounted for in numismatic collections.

PCGS# 4258.

DIMES

Lustrous Choice Mint State 1822 Dime

Third Finest Certified by PCGS



10156 1822 JR-1, the only known dies. Rarity-3. MS-64 (PCGS). A lustrous cappuccino glow blankets the untroubled surfaces of this near-Gem Capped Bust. Well struck and uniformly bold, though exhibiting a peripheral softness that is characteristic to even the sharpest examples of this issue. One of the rarest dime issues of the design type probably represented by a population no greater than 200 survivors in all grades combined (borderline R-3 to R-4) in our opinion, mostly in the range from Poor to Fine. The 1822 is very rare above the VF grade level, and exceedingly rare at the MS-64 level as offered here. The presently offered coin ranks as the third finest example of the date certified

by PCGS. The mintage for 1822 dimes is said to be 100,000 pieces; if all the dimes coined during the year were from this solitary die pair, the survival rate would be a dismal 0.2%, or expressed another way a single coin per 500 minted. It seems much more likely that dated dime dies from earlier years continued to be used until they were worn out — this despite rules to the contrary, and by inference the actual mintage for 1822-dated dimes is probably much smaller than 100,000 pieces.

PCGS# 4497. NGC ID: 236Z.

PCGS Population: 1; 2 finer (MS-66 finest)

Rare EF-45 1872-CC Dime



10157 1872-CC Fortin-101, the only known dies. Rarity-5+. EF-45 (PCGS). Warmly toned in a blend of golden-gray and light olive, this impressive condition rarity is uncommonly smooth and problem free texture for an early date CC-mint silver coin. Overall bold definition is also noteworthy, and both the quality and eye appeal are sure to arouse the

interest of advanced Liberty Seated collectors. Although 35,480 examples were originally minted probably no more than 200 to 300 still exist today. The median grade for certified specimens is about VF-20 or so. EF examples are rare, and the issue is all but unobtainable finer.

PCGS# 4657. NGC ID: 23A8.

Colorfully Toned Gem 1921 Dime

PCGS Full Bands Designation



10158 1921 MS-66 FB (PCGS). Vibrant green, amber, and violet saturate the underlying luster of this gorgeous Full Bands Gem. The mintage of slightly more than 1.2 million pieces, one of the lowest in the series, reflects that the 1921 is scarce in all grades. Presently, it appears that there are probably only between 600 to 800 Mint State examples, most of

which are designated as having Full Bands. Mint State coins encapsulated by PCGS have a median grade of MS-64; notably, fewer than 15% of the Uncirculated 1921 dimes certified by that firm have been awarded a grade of MS-66 or finer.

PCGS# 4935. NGC ID: 23HE.

Condition Rarity 1942/1 Dime

Tied as Finest Certified by PCGS



10159 1942/1 FS-101. MS-66 FB (PCGS). A glorious lilac patina blankets the angelic surfaces of this stunning Full Bands overdate. The luster enthusiastically dances with a subtle tilt, exposing the truly untouched nature of this Top Pop example. The 1942/1 obverse die was created as a consequence of two different obverse hubs having been used. It's thought that the issue was coined in late 1941 at which time both 1941- and 1942-dated obverse dies were being produced. Evidently a die was removed from a hubbing press after having received an impression from an obverse hub and then was placed in an annealing furnace to toughen the die steel. After cooling, it was reinstalled in the hubbing press to receive a second impression, but with a hub of the wrong date, and hence the final digit was visually

expressed as 2/1. This occurred during World War II, at a time when the Mint's workforce was expected to maintain higher-than-normal quotas, consequently quality-control measures were sidestepped and mistakes were made. Only a few thousand impressions from this obverse die have survived to the present time, mostly in the VF to EF grade range. Mint state examples are rare, perhaps amounting to 200 or 300 piece all told. PCGS has awarded a grade of MS-66 to just 11 examples of the variety, with none finer; six of these are designated as FB examples.

PCGS# 5037. NGC ID: 23K4.

PCGS Population 6; none finer within the FB designation; 11 have been graded as MS-66 by PCGS, with none finer (encompassing all designations).

TWENTY-CENT PIECES

Vividly Toned 1876 Twenty-Cent Piece



10160 1876 Proof-66 (PCGS). A vibrant electric blue iridescence pairs delightfully with the pinkish tones that are visible on and around the devices of both sides. The fields remain smooth and glassy, effortlessly suspending the boldly frosted motifs throughout. A light source exposes the pristine nature and stunning beauty that this double dime offers. Despite a *Guide Book* listed Proof mintage of 1,500 pieces,

it appears that far fewer were actually issued; combined certification service statistics suggest that perhaps 800 to 1,000 coins can be accounted for in today's collections. Most examples offered are in the range from Proof-62 to 64. Gems grading Proof-66 or finer are very rare, with just a few dozen encapsulated by both services combined.

PCGS# 5304. NGC ID: 27H3.

Satiny Gem 1876 Twenty-Cents



10161 1876 MS-66 (NGC). This is a gorgeous Gem. Both sides are bathed in bright, brilliant, satin white luster. Fully struck with a silky smooth texture. This scarce twenty-cent piece would serve equally well in a better date type set or specialized collection of this brief 19th century series. The 1876 is a scarce issue having a circulation-strike mintage of just 14,400 pieces. Probably only about 10 to 15% of the

original production figure still exists, and many examples are circulated. The median grade for Uncirculated pieces is MS-63. The issue is rare at the MS-66 level, and is all but unobtainable finer.

PCGS# 5299. NGC ID: 23R8.

NGC Census: 16; 4 finer (MS-67 finest)

QUARTER DOLLARS

Outstanding 1843-O Quarter

Sole Finest Certified by PCGS



10162 1843-O Briggs 1-B. Small O. MS-64 (PCGS). The satiny fields of this lovely near-Gem offer a subtle prooflike reflectivity when paired against the heavily frosted devices that project from either side. Faint amber tones compliment the otherwise brilliant facade, contributing to the strong eye appeal of this Top Pop piece. Despite a generous mintage for the era of 968,000 pieces, there were few if any collectors in the New Orleans area to set aside examples at the time

of issue, and consequently, the 1843-O is extremely rare in Mint State, with only six examples certified by PCGS and nine others by NGC. The presently offered coin ranks as the sole finest certified by PCGS, and is one of the top four graded by either service.

PCGS# 5405. NGC ID: 23SS.

PCGS Population: 1, none finer

Premium Gem 1848 Quarter

Condition Census



10163 1848 Briggs 1-A. Repunched Date. MS-66 (NGC). The satiny fields of this gorgeous Gem display a psychedelic swirling of greens and pinks that offers a truly unique aesthetic. Otherwise brilliant and sharply impressed throughout. Despite a mintage of 146,000 quarters at the Philadelphia Mint in 1848, very few were preserved in Mint State, perhaps just 20 or 30, all told. This issue was produced during an era before coin collecting had becoming a popular

pastime. Although some examples may have been set aside by a tiny coterie of coin collectors, others were probably preserved simply as a matter of chance. Most Mint State 1848 quarters are in the range from MS-62 to 64. Gems-quality pieces — as offered here — are exceedingly rare.

PCGS# 5412. NGC ID: 23SZ.

NGC Census: 1; 1 finer (MS-67 finest).

The Walrath-Pittman 1850-O Quarter

Sole Finest Certified by Either Service



10164 1850-O Briggs-2-C. MS-66 (NGC). A spectacular New Orleans Mint quarter that may very well be the finest example known! The obverse glows with a warm amber and magenta radiance, progressing to violet and teal iridescence across the reverse. The surfaces exhibit rich and uninterrupted luster, without a single noteworthy blemish to be exposed by magnification. Nicely struck, though exhibiting peripheral obverse softness that serves to confirm its Pittman lineage. Only a few dozen Mint State examples are known to exist, mostly in the MS-62 to 64 range. Gem-quality coins are exceedingly rare. This is the sole finest example certified

by NGC, with a single runner up at the MS-65 level. The finest example certified by PCGS grades MS-64. In David Akers' sale of the Pittman Collection, the cataloger noted: "I have never seen or heard of another 1850-O quarter that compares to this one, and in my opinion, it is probably the finest known example of this rare issue."

PCGS# 5416.

NGC Census: 1; none finer.

Ex: David Akers Numismatics' sale of the John. Jay Pittman Collection, Part II, May 1998, lot 1318. Acquired by Pittman from Numismatic Gallery's sale of the Walrath Collection, May 1948, lot 477, for the price of \$5.

Brilliant 1870 Quarter Tied as Finest Certified by PCGS



10165 1870 Briggs-1-A. MS-66 (PCGS). A fully brilliant Gem with rich, satiny luster uniformly blanketing both sides. The devices remain impressively rendered and graced by snowy Mint frost throughout. A finer specimen in a PCGS holder cannot be found! Despite modest catalog valuations in popular collecting guides, the 1870 is a very rare issue in Uncirculated condition, with perhaps just two or three

dozen examples above the AU-58 level. The finest coins certified by either service grade MS-66 as offered here. Once this beauty crosses the auction block, when will there be another opportunity to acquire such a superlative specimen?

PCGS# 5476. NGC ID: 23UK.
PCGS Population: 4; none finer.

Superlative 1875 Liberty Seated Quarter Sole Finest Certified by Both Services



10166 1875 MS-67+ (PCGS). A deep, snowy luster blankets the fields of this immaculate Superb Gem. The bold devices remain buried under a heavy layer of frosting reminiscent of a well-struck Proof. Billowy and cartwheeling brilliance encounters subtle iridescent pastels at the borders, contributing to a timeless and graceful aesthetic throughout. Although a few hundred examples have been certified by the two major grading services, the vast majority of these

are in the range from MS-62 to MS-65. Ranks thin out dramatically above the MS-65 level, and MS-67 coins are extremely rare. The presently offered coin ranks as the finest certified by either service. As runner ups there are three MS-67 examples certified by PCGS, and seven by NGC.

PCGS# 5498. NGC ID: 23UX.
PCGS Population 1; none finer.

Pristine-Looking 1898 Proof Quarter



10167 1898 Proof-68 Cameo (NGC). A magnificent Gem Proof exhibiting exceptional depth in the reflective fields. This being one of the characteristics of many 1897 and 1898 Proof coins, as it seem that some part of the process hit a high point in this period. Bold cameo contrast, and

highlighted by a rich array of rainbow toning. Fully original with outstanding visual appeal.

PCGS# 5684. NGC ID: 242D.

NGC Census: 10; 2 finer within the designation (Proof-68 finest).

Ex: Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society; Heritage's sale of the Eric P. Newman Collection, Part II, November 2013, lot 33239.

Virtually Flawless 1907 Quarter Proof-68 — PCGS Certified and CAC Attested



10168 1907 Proof-68 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. This virtually flawless Barber exhibits a wondrous brassy and teal patina draped across the remarkably crisp surfaces on both sides. The fields offer a watery depth and gracefully suspend frosty, chiseled motifs throughout. The *Guide Book* listed Proof mintage of 575 pieces dovetails nicely with certification

service statistics for the issue, and ranks as the sixth lowest Proof production run in the entire Barber quarter series. Proof-68 graded pieces amount to less than 2% of PCGS-certified population.

PCGS# 5693. NGC ID: 242N.

PCGS Population: 4; none finer, within all designations.

Fabled 1916 Standing Liberty Quarter

PCGS Gem Full Head Designation



10169 1916 Standing Liberty. MS-66 FH (PCGS). A vibrant halo of amber and magenta encircles the otherwise brilliant obverse of this first-year Gem. The reverse remains brilliant with a similar cartwheeling luster. Well struck and virtually pristine, this example is truly beautiful to behold. The 1916 ranks as the undisputed key issue in the Standing Liberty series. Only 52,000 examples were minted, and of these probably only 2,500 to 3,500 (in all grades) can be accounted for in numismatic collections. The mean grade for certified Uncirculated examples is in the MS-63 to 64 range, and survivors at the MS-66 level are very rare. This lovely coin is in the top 2% of the entire PCGS-certified population for

the issue. Apparently the Philadelphia Mint received word that the new Standing Liberty quarter design was being adopted in late 1916 and a set of dies were prepared. Barber quarters were issued in significant numbers in 1916 from both the Philadelphia and Denver mints. The 1916 Standing Liberty quarters were struck in the second half of December that year and all were released with the first batches of the new 1917 quarters in mid January by the Philadelphia Mint. Most entered circulation with little fanfare, and stayed there. Thankfully a few were saved by alert collectors as the first of their kind.

PCGS# 5705. NGC ID: 242Y.

Strike and Condition Rarity 1918-S Quarter



10170 1918-S MS-66+ FH (PCGS). The matte-like surfaces of this San Francisco Gem are accented by subtle violet marbling on the reverse. The devices are uniformly bold and frosty, offering an uncommon level of intricacy throughout. Tied with one other coin as finest certified by PCGS within the FH designation. Although 200 to 300 Gem-quality 1918-S

quarters can be accounted for in numismatic collections, only a fraction are designated as FH by the certification services. In terms of quality, this is the top of the line.

PCGS# 5725. NGC ID: 2439.

PCGS Population: 2; none finer within the FH designation

HALF DOLLARS



10171 1812 O-107. Rarity-1. MS-65 (NGC). Pleasing deep champagne toning over much of the surface changes to deeper golden brown at the rims. A few flecks of blue iridescence are also seen. Nice luster shows through the patina. Well struck, though the stars along the right side are flat, which is a typical characteristic of this die variety. Though it is noted in the most recent edition of the Overton

reference that this variety always is seen with at least a minor trace of the die lump that later forms on the left wing, this one does not show any sign of it. This is a very early impression. Light clashmarks are seen on the reverse, though none are on the obverse. The dies clashed again, imparting very clear clashmarks on both dies.

PCGS# 6100. NGC ID: 24EW.

Extremely Rare 1844-O Half Dollar Variety Misplaced Date, FS-301



10172 1844-O WB-22, FS-301. Rarity-4. Misplaced Date. Medium O. MS-61 (PCGS). A serene gunmetal patina is backlit by subtle teal and champagne highlights throughout this dramatic Mint State blunder. The motifs are bold and elegantly frosted, suspended regally in the silken fields on both sides. A cursory examination of the overdate feature reveals that it is one of the most dramatic die cutting blunders of the mid 19th century, and it attests to the frugality of the U.S. Mint that the die was ever used. Walter Breen regarded the variety as “very rare” when he wrote his *Complete Encyclopedia* back in 1988. Fivaz and Stanton in the most recent edition of their *Cherrypickers’ Guide* note that the variety is “considered very rare and highly collectible.” The two major certification services have encapsulated a little

more than 20 (mostly circulated) examples, but others probably reside in certification service holders without an FS-301 attribution. Wiley and Bugert in their *Complete Guide to Liberty Seated Half Dollars* list the variety as Rarity-4 (signifying 116 to 160 pieces in all grades). The FS-301 variety is extremely rare in Uncirculated condition. Wiley and Bugert assigned a R-8- rating at the Mint State level (signifying just two or three examples!). PCGS has certified a scant three “Doubled Date” coins (all probably FS-301) as Mint State, and NGC has encapsulated just one at the Uncirculated level.

PCGS# 145817. NGC ID: 24H2.

PCGS: 1, none finer within the FS-301 designation; Two other Mint State “Double Date” coins have been certified by PCGS without the FS attribution, these grading MS-63 and MS-64.

Proof 1846 Half Dollar Rarity



10173 1846 Medium Date. Proof-63 (NGC). An undeniable Proof striking of this early Liberty Seated half dollar issue, this piece exhibits razor sharp devices, reflective fields and broad, squared off rims. The devices are more satiny that reflective, and direct light angles reveal extremely modest cameo contrast to the finish. Lightly toned in mottle tan-olive iridescence, grade limiting contact marks in the right obverse field also serve as useful pedigree markers. The exact Proof mintage for this date is unknown and subject to some speculation, but was no doubt minuscule. As noted

in our January 2013 New York Americana Sale, we believe the total number of coins struck to be around only 20-30 pieces at the most. All known Proofs of this issue are of the Medium Date variety. To distinguish the Medium Date, examine the numeral 4 in the date — the bottom horizontal stand and the crossbar serif are connected, whereas on the Large Date variety, they are clearly separated. A singularly rare opportunity for early Proof specialists and connoisseurs of the Liberty Seated coinage alike.

PCGS# 6390. NGC ID: 27T8.

Superb Proof 1882 Half Dollar Tied as Finest Certified by NGC



10174 1882 Proof-68 (NGC). Midnight blue and violet hues cascade over the virtually pristine surfaces of this stunning Liberty Seated Proof. The devices are sharp and heavily frosted throughout, owning up to a mild Cameo contrast when paired against the icy and reflective fields. The surviving population of Proofs is probably closer to 800 pieces rather than the 1,100 figure listed in the *Guide*

Book. The median grade for certified examples is Proof-64 or thereabouts, and Gems above the Proof-66 level are extremely rare. NGC has certified just three coins at the Proof-68 level with none finer; the finest encapsulated by PCGS grades Proof-67.

PCGS# 6443. NGC ID: 27UH.

NGC Census: 3; none finer within all designations.

Lustrous Gem 1917-D Half Dollar

Reverse Mintmark Variety



10175 1917-D Reverse Mintmark. MS-65 (PCGS). A mottling of indigo complements the underlying silvery luster throughout this satiny Gem. The motifs are notably bold and free from handling marks of any sort. Combined population statistics suggest a total Mint State supply of between 700 and 1,000 pieces, mostly in the MS-63 to MS-64 range.

Fewer than 15% of the Uncirculated coins encapsulated by PCGS are Gems. Far fewer 1917-D Reverse Mintmark half dollars were set aside at the time of issue than the Obverse Mintmark type, and the variety is easily one of the top 10 rarest Walking Liberty half dollar issues in Gem Mint State.

PCGS# 6571. NGC ID: 24PS.

Rare Gem 1919-S Half Dollar



10176 1919-S MS-65 (PCGS). OGH. This remarkable strike and condition rarity is sharply defined in all areas from the rims to the centers. The surfaces exhibit a silky smooth, satiny texture and whispers of lovely pearl gray, pale pink, olive-gold and copper-russet iridescence. Because very few numismatists collected mintmark varieties at the time, the survival of Mint State coins was mainly a matter of chance.

Although no figures are known, the cataloger estimates that perhaps 500 were set aside in the year of issue. Most of these appear to have been in the MS-63 to MS-64 range, and only a few dozen Gems can be accounted for today — less than 25% of the total Mint State population.

PCGS# 6579. NGC ID: 24R2.

Key Date 1921-D Half Dollar

Choice MS-63 PCGS



10177 1921-D MS-63 (PCGS). Medium gold iridescence mingles with soft mint luster on both sides of this inviting Choice Mint State piece. Boldly defined throughout, this key date condition rarity is sure to find its way into an advanced Walking Liberty half dollar collection.

One of three important key dates in the design type, all of which were struck in 1921, and all of which had mintage of fewer than one million pieces. The 1921-D offered here had a mintage of 208,000, 38,000 pieces fewer than the 1921

issue, but far fewer than half the total for the 1921-S. The 1921-D rules the value columns in the *Guide Book* up to the EF level, at which point the larger-mintage 1921-S takes over for value comparison. Still, the value and elusive nature of the 1921-D have been proven time and time again in the pages of our catalogs. At MS-63, the stage is set for a bold bout of bidding activity.

PCGS# 6584.

Gem MS-65+ 1928-S Half Dollar

Top 2% of Certified Population



10178 1928-S MS-65+ (PCGS). CAC. A subtle cappuccino iridescence accents the bright and lively surfaces of this well struck Gem. PCGS has certified nearly 400 Mint State 1928-S half dollars over the years, but fewer than 2% of them

could match the quality offered here. One of the finest we've had the opportunity to offer in recent times.

PCGS# 6588. NGC ID: 24RB.

PCGS: 1; 6 finer (MS-66 finest).

SILVER DOLLARS

Desirable 1795 Flowing Hair Dollar



10179 1795 Flowing Hair. BB-13, B-9. Rarity-4. BB Die State I. Two Leaves—Silver Plug—VF Details—Cleaning (PCGS). Evenly toned slate gray surfaces also reveal a tinge of light gold as the coin rotates under a light. This is a boldly defined VF with all major design elements fully appreciable and the all-important silver plug readily evident in the center of the reverse. A matte-like texture explains the PCGS qualifier, although the overall appearance is pleasing, and given the prominent silver plug this piece is sure to find many eager buyers among advanced early dollar specialists.

The *Guide Book* includes the 1795 Flowing Hair dollar

“silver plug” variety as a separate listing in the latest edition. As noted there: “Some Flowing Hair dollars of 1794 [unique] and 1795 were weight-adjusted through insertion of a small (8 mm) silver plug in the center of the blank planchet before the coin was struck.” These “plugged” dollars were first recognized as such only a short while ago by numismatic standards, and have risen in popularity to the point that many early dollar specialists strive to include an example in their cabinet. If such is the case with you, acquisition of the present specimen should

PCGS# 6854.

Classic 1836 Gobrecht Dollar

Name on Base, Judd-60



10180 1836 Name on Base. Judd-60 Original, Pollock-65. Rarity-1. Dannreuther Reverse Die State b. Silver. Plain Edge. Die Alignment I. Proof. Unc Details—Rim Damage (PCGS). The bright and reflective surfaces of this wonderful specimen gleam with a faint amber iridescence on both sides. An effortless sublimation occurs between the bold devices and glassy fields, delivering a truly majestic aesthetic throughout. The noted rim imperfection remains entirely undisclosed by the PCGS encapsulation, leading us to infer that it is largely benign and insignificant.

Notable as the first denomination to feature Christian Gobrecht's popular Seated Liberty design motif that was retained on U.S. dimes, quarters and half dollars through 1891, on half dimes and silver dollars through 1873, and on 20-cent pieces 1875-1878. Gobrecht's Seated Liberty

portrait embodies design features taken from sketches created by two great American artists of the era, Titian Peale and Thomas Sully, both of whom submitted drawings for a new Liberty design. A background history on Gobrecht's Seated Liberty portrait by R.W. Julian can be read in the first volume of Q. David Bowers' *Silver Dollars & Trade Dollars of the United States: A Complete Encyclopedia*. The flying eagle motif on the reverse is attributed to Titian Peale. Pieces having Die Alignment I are thought to have been from the first batch of the variety now known as Judd-60 produced in 1836. This assignment is corroborated by the fact that presentation strikes made for President Andrew Jackson and Commodore Matthew C. Perry have this alignment.

PCGS# 11225. NGC ID: 27YE.

Premium Gem Proof 1872 Silver Dollar

Among the Finest Certified



10181 1872 Proof-65+ (PCGS). The gunmetal complexion of this premium Gem erupts into teal and magenta iridescence when viewed at an angle, animating the otherwise tranquil and undisturbed surfaces. A subtle reflectivity announces the fields, providing a pleading backdrop to the frosty motifs. An impressive Gem coined during the penultimate year of the design type. Despite a *Guide Book* listed Proof mintage of 950 coins, certification service statistics suggest

that the surviving population is actually in the range between 500 and 700 pieces, about on par with the 1873. The median grade for certified examples is in the range from Proof-63 to 64. Examples encapsulated as Proof-65+ or finer are extremely rare.

PCGS# 7020. NGC ID: 252U.

PCGS Population: 2; 3 finer (Proof-67 finest, within all designations)

Boldly Toned Gem Proof 1873 Liberty Seated Dollar



10182 1873 Liberty Seated. Proof-65 (NGC). Fully struck with richly original surfaces, the obverse has bold lavender-copper patina while the reverse is lighter overall with mottled silver-lilac, champagne-apricot, lavender-gray and cobalt blue toning. Struck during the closing year of the

Liberty Seated design, only 600 Proofs were minted during the year and most survivors are Proof-63 to 64. Less than 20% of the NGC-certified population has been awarded a grade of Proof-65 or finer.

PCGS# 7021. NGC ID: 252V.

Vibrant First-Year 1878-S Morgan



10183 1878-S Morgan. MS-67 (PCGS). CAC. Secure Holder. Exquisite satin white surfaces are fully struck, highly lustrous and nearly perfect. Somewhat more elusive in high Mint State grades despite the common date status usually accorded this date from the first year of the series. In MS-67 there are few peers and far fewer finer pieces, with the few

finer examples probably tied up in advanced Morgan dollar cabinets for some time to come. Don't let this opportunity slip away!

PCGS# 7082. NGC ID: 253R.

PCGS Population: 28; 3 finer (all MS-68). One of the 28 is designated + by PCGS, and two of the three finer are designated PL by that firm.

Ex: Bella.

Frosty MS-65 1879-CC Silver Dollar

Clear CC Variety



10184 1879-CC Clear CC. MS-65 (PCGS). CAC. Luxurious frosty white surfaces are smooth, lustrous and simply beautiful for a Carson City Morgan dollar regardless of date. The 1879-CC is generally regarded as the third scarcest Carson City Mint issue in the Morgan dollar series after the 1889-CC and 1893-CC. The 1879-CC has long been a favorite with Morgan dollar specialists, and is eagerly sought in all grades

from Good up to Gem Mint State. Gem-quality pieces are elusive, amounting to less than 3% of the total PCGS-certified population. Notably, the same service has graded only a couple of examples at MS-66 with none finer.

PCGS# 7086. NGC ID: 253T.

PCGS Population: 98; 7 finer (MS-66 finest, within the #7086 designation).

A Second Brilliant 1879-CC Morgan



10185 1879-CC Clear CC. MS-64+ (PCGS). Outstanding frosty white surfaces are sharply struck, highly lustrous and expertly preserved. The 1879-CC appears to be substantially scarcer than the mintage figure of 756,000 pieces suggests, with the number of survivors likely in the range from 12,000 to 15,000 pieces. The number of Mint State examples accounted for is consistent with the idea that perhaps 8 to 12 bags (8,000 to 12,000 coins) emerged from the giant U.S. Treasury Hoard during the early 1960s, including

4,100 examples distributed by the GSA during the 1970s. Significantly, fewer than 10% of the Mint State examples certified by PCGS have been assigned a grade of MS-64+ or finer. The relative proportions of "Clear CC" coins to those designated as "CC Over CC," is not well known, but the Clear CC commands higher premiums in most grades. Many collectors include examples of both varieties in their sets.

PCGS# 7086. NGC ID: 253T.

Gem DMPL 1881 Morgan Dollar



10186 1881 MS-65 DMPL (PCGS). Brilliant surfaces combine frosty devices and reflective fields in true cameo fashion. This is a beautiful example of an important strike and condition rarity among early Philadelphia Mint Morgan dollar issues. DMPL examples are rare amounting to less than 2% of total 1881 Morgan dollars certified by PCGS;

examples designated as PL are seen slightly more often, but are also very scarce. Gems within the DMPL designation are true condition rarities — fewer than 10 examples have been certified by PCGS over the years.

PCGS# 97125. NGC ID: 2546.

PCGS Population: 9; none finer within the DMPL designation

Satiny Condition Rarity 1883-S Dollar

Within the Top 2% of PCGS-Certified Examples



10187 1883-S MS-64+ (PCGS). Displaying brilliant satin luster, this appealing Morgan dollar is fully struck and smooth enough to suggest a full Gem grade. Despite a large mintage of 6.25 million pieces, it is likely that most of the Mint State specimens in Treasury vaults were melted into bullion pursuant to the provisions of the Pittman Act of 1918. The current Mint State supply falls far short of the widespread demand for Mint State Morgan dollars. For a detailed commentary on this variety see the study by Q.

David Bowers published in 1993 as part of *Silver Dollars and Trade Dollars of the United States: A Complete Encyclopedia*. Today in the era of certification, we learn that the median grade for certified Mint State examples is in the MS-62 to MS-63 range; fewer than 2% of the Uncirculated examples encapsulated by PCGS have been assigned a grade of MS-64+ or finer.

PCGS# 7148. NGC ID: 254K.

Uncommonly Sharp Choice 1893-CC Morgan Dollar



10188 1893-CC MS-64 (PCGS). Razor sharp in strike — itself rare for an 1893-CC Morgan dollar — this fully Choice survivor is also remarkably smooth for this conditionally challenging issue. Brilliant, highly appealing, and sure to see spirited bidding at auction. The 1893-CC is notable as both the final Carson City Mint Morgan dollar issue and the second most desirable Carson City Mint Morgan variety after the 1889-

CC. In the GSA distribution of Morgan dollars found in the Treasury building by 1964, there was just a single 1893-CC. Today, most Mint State examples available to collectors are in the MS-62 to 63 grade range. MS-64 specimens are well above average for the issue, and Gem-quality pieces are all but unobtainable.

PCGS# 7222. NGC ID: 255S.

Celebrated Proof-Only 1895 Morgan Dollar



10189 1895 Proof-64 Cameo (PCGS). Delightful golden-tinted surfaces are fully struck with pronounced contrast. Exquisite! Only 880 dollars of this date are thought to have been struck, all Proofs. The median grade for PCGS-certified examples is around Proof-63. Proof-64 specimens — as offered here — are decidedly above average. The 1895 has long been considered the *king* of the Morgan dollar

series, and the acquisition of an example is a celebrated and long-remembered event for any collector fortunate enough to purchase one. Although 12,000 circulation strikes were coined, none can be accounted for today, and it's thought that all were melted into bullion during the early part of the 20th century.

PCGS# 87330.

Exquisite MS-64+ 1895-S Silver Dollar



10190 1895-S MS-64+ (PCGS). A dusting of delicate silvery iridescence accents blazing Mint brilliance on this exquisite 1895-S Morgan. The devices are sharply defined with a frosty texture that contrasts with an even more vibrant, satin to semi-reflective finish in the fields. The 1895-S ranks as one of the rarest Morgan dollar varieties in Mint State.

Examples on the market fall far short of the intense demand for them. Among those that do exist, survivors grading MS-64+ or finer are rare, amounting to scarcely more than 2% of the PCGS-certified population.

PCGS# 7238. NGC ID: 255Z.

Gem Proof-67 Morgan \$1 Top 3% of PCGS-Certified Supply



10191 1902 Proof-67 (PCGS). An angelic spotlight of brilliance highlights the central devices on both sides, eventually falling into placid violet and teal tones at the borders. The devices are pleasingly bold and untouched, contrasting handsomely with the watery and reflective surrounding fields. Despite a Guide Book listed Proof mintage of 777 coins, combined population statistic suggest a surviving population in the

neighborhood of just 500 to 600 pieces. The median grade for certified examples appears to be intermediate between Proof-63 and Proof-64. Coins grading Proof-67 or finer are extremely rare, amounting to less than 3% of the total PCGS-certified supply.

PCGS# 7337. NGC ID: 2822.

PCGS Population: 5; 3 finer (Proof-68 finest within all designations).

Premium Gem 1903-S Silver Dollar Rarity



10192 1903-S MS-66 (PCGS). This gorgeous Gem is layered in iridescent olive-copper, rose-apricot, blue gray and lemon-yellow iridescence that leaves the central reverse essentially brilliant. Sharply struck and satiny in texture throughout, this key date Morgan rarity is sure to excite the advanced silver dollar specialist. At first glance, the 1903-S and 1904-S appear to be about equal in rarity, but population statistics

indicate that the 1903-S is really the scarcer of the two, with a Mint State supply resulting from occasional pieces released from government vaults during the 20th century. MS-64 is the median grade for PCGS-certified Mint State examples. Gems are rare, and only a few dozen MS-66 survivors can be accounted for.

PCGS# 7288. NGC ID: 256T.

Elusive Gem 1928-S Peace Dollar



10193 1928-S MS-65 (PCGS). The lustrous dove-gray patina of this pleasing Gem is accented by a mottling of teal and magenta highlights throughout. Uniformly bold and undisturbed, with remarkable satiny luster blanketing both sides. Although thousands of Mint State examples of the issue have been certified since the mid 1980s, Gem-quality pieces have consistently been few and far between. Fewer than 1% of the 1928-S dollars certified by PCGS have been

awarded a grade of MS-65, with only two examples finer. The 1928-S ranks as the 3rd rarest Peace dollar issue at the MS-65 level, eclipsed only by the 1922 High Relief (although non Proofs might more suitably be regarded as production trials — i.e. patterns — rather than as coins) and the 1925-S.

PCGS# 7374. NGC ID: 257W.

PCGS Population: 54; 2 finer (MS-66 finest)

TRADE DOLLARS

Lovely Superb Gem 1878 Trade Dollar



- 10194 1878 Trade. Proof-67 Cameo (PCGS). CAC. Secure Holder.** A largely brilliant and boldly frosted representation of Liberty yields to varied obverse toning of deep golden and electric blue that deepens toward the rim. The reverse is warm and deep champagne-gold throughout with a hint of blue at the rim and with intense luster in the eagle's plumage. *Tied for finest certified of the date by PCGS.* From a Proof-only production run for the date, with no Philadelphia

circulation strikes forthcoming, although San Francisco and Carson City produced trade dollars of the date. Commencing with the next year, 1879, only Proofs were struck for collectors. An ideal selection for an advanced trade dollar cabinet or U.S. type set.

PCGS# 87058.

PCGS Population: only 2; and none are finer.

Stunning Proof-Only 1880 Trade Dollar



- 10195 1880 Trade. Proof-66 (PCGS).** The bold and snowy motifs of this spectacular Gem Proof exhibit impressive intricacy, blanketed by subtle rose-gold hues throughout. The fields harbor an icy reflectivity and contribute a pleasingly subtle Cameo contrast to both sides. A desirable Proof-only issue having a mintage of just 1,987 pieces. As trade dollars were not coined for overseas shipments subsequent 1878, the entire mintage for each year between 1879 and 1883 was for

the benefit of coin collectors, and based on the production figures, the trade dollar remained a popular denomination with the numismatic community during the entire five-year period. The median grade for certified examples is Proof-63 to 64. Gems are scarce, and just a few dozen examples have been certified as Proof-66 or finer.

PCGS# 7060. NGC ID: 27YS.

MODERN DOLLAR

Impressive Type II 1972 Ike Dollar

Among the Finest Certified



10196 1972 Eisenhower Dollar. Type II Reverse. MS-66 (PCGS). CAC. Satiny golden-gray surfaces boasts superior technical quality and eye appeal in a circulation strike modern dollar of this increasingly popular design type. Three Philadelphia Mint 1972 varieties are recognized by collectors, but only the Type II, as offered here, is rare in high grades. The three varieties can most easily be distinguished from one another by differences in the appearance of the globe above the eagle's right wing (viewer's left). Descriptions of the three varieties in popular collector guides are rather terse and unhelpful (and Breen's *Complete Encyclopedia* has an incorrect photo), but NGC has an illustrated article on the topic which

enables immediate identification, see: <http://www.ngccoin.com/news/viewarticle.aspx?NewsletterNewsArticleID=93>. The reverse die(s) of the 1972 Type II Eisenhower dollar was/were from the same hub that was used previously for the production of some of the 1971-S Proof dollar dies. To our knowledge, the Type II reverse hub was retired in 1972, and no Type II dies are known for Eisenhower dollars dated 1973 or later. PCGS has certified fewer than 10 Type II 1972 dollars as MS-66 or finer, just a tiny fraction of 1% of the total certified population.

PCGS# 97409. NGC ID: 2587.

PCGS Population: 7; none finer (within the Type II designation).

QUARTER EAGLES

Pleasing AU 1805 Quarter Eagle



10197 1805 BD-1, the only known dies. Rarity-4. Die State b/a. AU-53 (PCGS). Warm khaki-orange patina blankets both sides of this lovely piece. With a nicely centered and overall bold strike, this piece is highly recommended for both advanced type purposes and inclusion in a specialized early gold collection. Planchet adjustment marks over the reverse eagle and clouds are so faint as to be easily overlooked at most angles.

This early design type by Robert Scot, in use 1796-1807, is one of the few areas in American numismatics where mintages are tiny enough in each year that no single date

can be considered common. Indeed, of the 11 date/variety combinations shown in the *Guide Book* for the design type, four have estimated mintage figures of *fewer than 1,000 pieces*. The mintage for the 1805 was 1,781 pieces, a small figure by any standards. The Bass-Dannreuther reference suggests that just 100 to 150 examples of the date are extant in all grades. This pleasing AU-53 example is choice for the grade and its quality should stir a small bidding war when it crosses the auction block.

PCGS# 7653.

Captivating Ultra Cameo Proof 1901 Quarter Eagle



10198 1901 Proof-67+ Ultra Cameo (NGC). Luxurious deep rose-gold patina blankets both sides of this exceptionally well preserved specimen. Expertly produced, as well, both sides exhibit razor sharp striking detail and an exceptional degree of cameo contrast in a Proof Liberty gold coin from the opening years of the 20th century. 1901 heralded the new century with the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo, New York, but was shattered by the assassination of William McKinley by anarchist Leon Czolgosz. Some 223 Proof quarter eagles were struck at the Philadelphia Mint that year, the highest mintage for the series though not a large number by any measure. It is estimated that some 150 to 170 coins

exist, and of those, more than a fair number are impaired. The 1901 Proof quarter eagle also offers the last year of issue where examples of the denomination may be found with the coveted Ultra Cameo designation. Within this rarefied environment, NGC has only graded two examples that have earned both Plus and Ultra Cameo designations and this is by far the finer of the two. A delicate jewel of the coiner's art and one that will find a place of pride in any advanced collection.

PCGS# 97927. NGC ID: 288R.

NGC Census: 1; none finer within the + and Ultra Cameo designations.

Choice Key Date 1911-D Quarter Eagle



10199 1911-D Strong D. MS-63 (PCGS). This fully struck, satin-textured beauty is bathed in luxurious yellow gold patina. The undisputed key date for the series, the 1911-D quarter eagle mintage figure stands at 55,600 coins, the only issue that falls below 100,000 pieces. The coins did not seem to attract attention once they entered circulation and comparatively few were set aside. They are difficult to find in Mint State

and are notable rarities above the Gem level. There are two reverse varieties, including one with a nearly invisible mintmark, but both are known with a diagnostic wire rim on the obverse which is generally most pronounced on the right side. The Strong D variety as here is vastly preferred by collectors and is eagerly pursued at any grade level.

PCGS# 7943. NGC ID: 2894.

A Second Mint State 1911-D Indian Quarter Eagle



10200 1911-D MS-63 (NGC). Although not designated as such on the NGC insert, this is a Strong D example with a crisp, fully defined D mintmark. The balance of the devices are also sharply impressed, and satiny honey-orange luster provides superior eye appeal at the assigned grade level. This has always been the key date to the Indian quarter eagle series, not only borne out by its tiny mintage, but its rarity has survived despite several seemingly more common issues giving the 1911-D a run for the top condition rarity

position. Simply put, this is a challenging series to collect in high grades, and several other date and mint combinations have proven to be far more difficult to obtain than generally realized. However, the king of the Indian quarter eagles remains the 1911-D, it has always been sought after in all grades, and is especially desirable when found at the Choice Mint State level.

PCGS# 7943. NGC ID: 2894.

Gem Sand Blast Proof 1912 Quarter Eagle



10201 1912 Proof-66 (PCGS). A simply exquisite specimen, both sides exhibit the characteristic fine grain sandblast finish of this issue, the surfaces sparkling with myriad tiny facets as the coin rotates under a light. This piece is both more vibrant in color and better preserved than the typically encountered proof 1912 quarter eagle, however, a fact that is sure to result in a strong realized price.

The Mint experimented with numerous Proof finishes on the Indian gold coinage between 1908 and 1915. The vast majority of numismatists of the era preferred the brilliant finishes of previous years and were not excited about the Sand Blast finish used on Bela Lyon Pratt's design. Throughout this period, many minor tweaks and adjustments were made

to enhance their appeal. In 1912, the coins show a more reflective texture, and as a result is considered among the most beautiful of the various finishes. A detailed study of the various finishes between each issue would prove to be a worthwhile endeavor for the advanced collector. Despite having the second highest reported mintage - 197 coins - the 1912 Proof quarter eagle is one of the scarcest of the series, and this specimen is among the best. Now the delicate beauty of the finish is much more appreciated. Worthy of the finest Proof specialist cabinet.

PCGS# 7961. NGC ID: 289L.

PCGS Population: 8; 5 finer.

THREE-DOLLAR GOLD PIECES

Choice AU 1855-S Three-Dollar Gold



10202 1855-S AU-55 (PCGS). Handsome khaki-orange envelopes surfaces that reveal faint traces of original luster in the protected areas around the devices. In 1855, the San Francisco Mint started production of the three-dollar gold piece, a denomination this facility would only produce for a handful of years. Only 6,600 pieces were struck and promptly entered circulation, where they stayed for many years. While generally well struck, David Akers notes that the 1855-S three-dollar gold piece “has the lowest average grade of any date in the entire series.” The reason for this is that after 1861, gold coins circulated at par on the West Coast while in the Midwest and in the East they were hoarded.

Accordingly, Philadelphia Mint issues survive in higher grades, while San Francisco varieties of all denominations tend to have received much more wear. For the three-dollar gold piece specialist, the challenge has always been to find a nicely preserved example. It is estimated that some 120 to 160 coins are known in circulated grades and perhaps three or four at the Mint State levels. This coin is tantalizingly close to Mint State and will be a source of considerable pride for years to come.

PCGS# 7973.

PCGS Population: 11; 9 finer at this service.

Condition Rarity 1856-S Three-Dollar Gold



10203 1856-S Medium S. MS-61 (NGC). This bold, satiny piece reveals only wispy, well scattered abrasions to define the grade. Otherwise evenly toned in light olive-orange, a tiny swirl of crimson-copper at the letter S in DOLLARS on the reverse is noted for accuracy. The 1856-S has the fifth highest mintage of the series, and these are available in moderate circulated grades. However, not many were saved and high grade pieces above AU are not commonly found. Many, in fact, are in grades of VF and lower, confirming that this issue

entered circulation and stayed there for years after striking. Here is one of the few survivors seen that retains full mint luster and far stronger eye appeal than that associated with the typical circulated example. Destined for an advanced three-dollar gold piece collection or specialized assembly of San Francisco Mint gold coinage.

PCGS# 7975. NGC ID: 25M9.

NGC Census: 12; 11 are finer (MS-64 finest).

Important Deep Cameo Proof 1867 \$3 Gold Piece

PCGS Pop: 1/0



10204 1867 Proof-63 Deep Cameo (PCGS). CAC. Gorgeous medium gold surfaces are fully defined with exceptional field-to-device contrast. As attractive as any Choice example of this rare Proof gold issue that this cataloger (JLA) has ever handled, this impressive rarity is sure to sell for a premium bid. The official mintage figures record 50 Proof 1867 three-dollar gold pieces were struck, but it is believed that only slightly more than half that number were actually sold to collectors that year, which tallies with the estimated number of surviving specimens. Combined with the known production of various *pieces de caprice* and restrikes, the mintage figures for Proof coins can be somewhat muddled. As Q. David Bowers and Doug Winter noted in *The United*

States \$3 Gold Pieces 1854-1889, buying Proof gold coins was a somewhat complicated affair at the time, as the coins had to be purchased using gold coins, themselves generally obtained only after paying a premium. Interestingly, even though the mintage is tiny, two different die pairs are known. These are distinguishable from prooflike circulation strikes by examining the date position on the reverse, which is somewhat higher and more to the right on the Proof coins. Of the few Proof specimens known, only this example has been given the Deep Cameo designation by PCGS. A splendid example for the most discerning cabinet.

PCGS# 98030.

Exceptional 1874 Three-Dollar Gold



10205 1874 MS-65 (PCGS). Bursting with satiny pinkish-gold luster, this gorgeous Gem is far finer than the typically encountered three-dollar gold piece, even an example of one of the more plentiful issues such as the 1874. A strong candidate to represent this challenging 19th century gold series in a high grade, high quality type set.

With a mintage of 41,800 coins, this issue has one of the highest production figures for the entire denomination, no doubt due in part by the mandated recoinage of old gold coins per the Mint Act of 1873. It is estimated that over 10%

of the total amount struck still survive, including a large number of Mint State coins, though almost entirely at lower levels of preservation. Above MS-64, a coin that some would call common for the type is quite challenging to locate, especially Gem specimens. Here is seldom-encountered opportunity for the quality-minded collector seeking a showcase specimen for the denomination.

PCGS# 7998. NGC ID: 25MX.

PCGS Population: 13; 4 finer (MS-66 finest at this service).

Vibrant Gem 1879 Three-Dollar Gold Piece



10206 1879 MS-65 (PCGS). OGH—First Generation. Exquisite golden-orange surfaces are bursting with smooth, vibrant, satiny mint bloom. A fully struck and exceptionally well preserved three-dollar gold piece irrespective of individual issue. With a mintage of 3,000 pieces, the 1879 \$3 is sometimes touted as a great rarity. The denomination never proved popular except as presentation pieces and holiday gifts. Even without demand, the Mint produced just enough coins to “prevent overvaluation from immediate rarity,” as a somewhat later *Annual Report of the Director of the Mint* put it. It is thought that nearly one-sixth of the production was preserved, apparently from small shipments made

to banks which never made it into general circulation. In fact, the number of Mint State specimens outnumbers circulated examples roughly two to one. This has turned into a fortunate happenstance for later numismatists, for it provides the opportunity to obtain a high grade example for type and specialist cabinets. That said, the majority of known pieces are in the lower Mint State levels and Gem coins quite scarce. A radiant coin for the discriminating collector.

PCGS# 8001. NGC ID: 25N2.

PCGS Population: 40; 6 finer.

HALF EAGLES

Lustrous 1798 Heraldic Eagle, 14-Star Reverse Five



10207 1798 Heraldic Eagle. BD-3. Rarity-5. Large 8, 14-Star Reverse, Wide Date. AU-55 (NGC). Warm khaki-olive patina blankets both sides and yields to equally attractive yellow gold as the coin dips into a light. The strike is sharp in most areas, and the vibrant, satiny texture retains much of the original mint finish. The number known today for this die marriage is thought to be between 35 and 50 coins, with the lower range the more probable according to John Dannreuther. An important variety as this is the only 1798 half eagle with 14 stars on the reverse. Furthermore, the reverse die was only used to strike coins with this single obverse die, and on some of the later coins struck (the present example included) the reverse die shows evidence of its terminal state with many connecting die cracks. Another such example resides in the Smithsonian Institution. It is

also interesting to note that the reverse die shows the master hub created by John Smith Gardner as the eagle has a longer neck, the claws come over the arrows, and the tail feathers are in two rows, all of which are believed to be hallmarks of the first Heraldic Eagle hubs prepared. Robert Scot, the chief engraver at the Mint, apparently replaced these master hubs one at a time; for the half eagle, it first appears on the 1799 BD-4 variety, where the distinctive components are seen — the shorter neck on the eagle, a single claw over the top of the arrows and branch, and three rows of tail feathers on the eagle. The Scot hubs continued in use until replaced in 1807 by John Reich, who was hired by the Philadelphia Mint to execute a general update to United States coinage designs.

PCGS# 8080. NGC ID: 25NN.

NGC Census: 5; 7 finer (MS-60 finest).

Delightful Mint State 1803/2 Half Eagle



10208 1803/2 BD-3. Rarity-4. MS-62 (PCGS). Gorgeous satin surfaces alternate between olive-gold and medium gold patina as the coin rotates under a light. Boldly, if not sharply defined in virtually all areas, this smooth-looking piece is at the threshold of Choice Mint State quality. There are four known varieties of the half eagles struck in 1803, all of which show the 3 over 2 overdate clearly. One of the more available issues of the type thanks to its moderate mintage of 33,506 coins, the 1803/2 half eagle is a perennial favorite for

collectors seeking a high grade example of early U. S. gold. Numismatists are fortunate in that a decent number of Mint State specimens are known, in spite of the half eagle serving as the workhorse gold coin in the early Republic. With its overdate lending added interest, this near Choice Mint State example is certain to please the successful bidder.

PCGS# 8084. NGC ID: 25NY.

PCGS Population: 49; 40 finer.

Lustrous AU 1803/2 BD-1 Half Eagle



10209 1803/2 BD-1. Rarity-4. AU-53 (PCGS). Boldly lustrous surfaces reveal attractive rich yellow patina with a bold to sharp strike and an immediately clear overdate. Only two obverse dies were used to coin the four die pairings of 1803/2 half eagles. Both dies are overdated from a prior 1802 obverse die for half eagles, apparently not needed in

that year of production. This high grade survivor offers both lustrous fields as well as copious curls on Liberty. The reverse is sharp as well, with ample wing feather definition to appeal to the numismatist. Scarce this well preserved and worthy of any advanced collection.

PCGS# 8084. NGC ID: 25NY.

Satiny BU 1806 Half Eagle



10210 1806 BD-6. Rarity-2. Round-Top 6, Stars 7x6. MS-62 (PCGS). Billowy satin luster blankets both sides, the surfaces also revealing areas of modest semi-reflectivity in the fields as the coin rotates under a light. Subtle reddish-rose highlights to the high points interrupt otherwise dominant green-gold patina. With an overall bold strike and carefully preserved surfaces, this delightful BU example would make an impressive addition to a Mint State gold type set. It thought that nearly 50,000 half eagles were struck in 1806 from this particular die pairing, a remarkable feat in of itself. Perhaps

this is the result of the obverse die being placed as the anvil (bottom) die contrary to the practice of earlier years. Despite the large production run, less than 2% of the entire mintage survives in any grade in part to the meltings of the 1820s and 1830s. The most common of the two varieties for the year and the entire series, a significant number of specimens can be found in Mint State. The issue remains as popular as ever as a chance for the discerning collector to be able to add a Mint State example of early American gold coinage.

PCGS# 8089. NGC ID: 25P5.

Popular First-Year 1813 Capped Head Left Five



10211 1813 BD-2. Rarity-4. AU-55 (PCGS). This charming piece exhibits warm, even, khaki-gold patina to boldly impressed features. Satiny in texture, and remarkably smooth for a lightly circulated survivor of this extremely challenging early half eagle type. This is the first year of the type as well, a type known as the Capped Bust that was launched by the Philadelphia Mint in 1813 which continued until early 1834. This particular series is known to have produced more famous rarities than any other in American numismatics! Many of those seen of this particular date are softly stuck, which makes this well struck coin stand out and be all the more desirable. A simply splendid coin for the advanced collector.

A major design revision was undertaken by Mint Engraver John Reich in 1807 for the half eagle, when his Capped Bust Left design was adopted. Reich also placed the denomination at the base of the reverse, stated simply as "5 D." He was able to move various elements such as the word LIBERTY from above Liberty's head right onto her cap, which allowed for her head to be larger in size given the

diameter of the coin. For the reverse, the eagle was changed to a more natural position of standing with its wings outstretched. In the prior Draped Bust type, the eagle design was taken from the Great Seal, but with Reich's revisions, the clouds and stars were eliminated from the reverse, while the legend E PLURIBUS UNUM remains and is similarly placed on a raised ribbon above the eagle.

In 1813 the Mint again changed the design of the half eagle, and here Engraver Reich removed Liberty's decolletage entirely, placing her head boldly on the obverse with ample curls cascading down her head. Her cap remains but the form is changed. For the eagle, various changes were made including the addition of his rear claw which appears below the top pair of olive leaves, and minor adjustments to his wing feathers are noted. This design continued through 1834 with only a minor modification by later Mint Engraver William Kneass in 1829, in order to strike these on the new coining press with a closed, tight collar in that year.

PCGS# 8116. NGC ID: 25PM.

Exceptional Ultra Cameo Proof 1894 Half Eagle

Condition Census



10212 1894 Proof-67 ★ Ultra Cameo (NGC). Gorgeous yellow gold surfaces are virtually pristine with sharp field to device contrast. The nation was still reeling from the Panic of 1893 at the time these Proof specimens were struck and would take many years for the economy to recover. In 1894, the unemployment rate reached its worst levels - over 18% by one source - and the gold supply remained depleted. The production of Proof gold coins, while never large to begin with, did not exceed double digit mintage numbers throughout the 1890s. Despite a mintage of 75 Proof coins in 1894, only a paltry 20 and 30 are still believed to be extant, making it one of

the rarities of the Proof half eagle series. Most surviving examples display the fine cameo effect preferred by the Mint at the turn of the century. While eight examples have earned NGC's Ultra Cameo designation, none have come close to this coin in Superb Gem Mint State, and is also the sole specimen to have also earned their Star indicator for exceptional eye appeal. It would be hard to imagine a finer specimen and will no doubt hold a place of honor in any Proof gold specialist's cabinet or as a strong candidate for a Registry set.

PCGS# 98489.

NGC Census: 1; none finer at this service in any designation.

Lovely Cameo Proof 1897 Half Eagle



10213 1897 Proof-64 Cameo (PCGS). A rich tangerine glow accents the deeply cameoed surfaces of this gorgeous near-Gem Proof. The devices are bold and untouched, echoed by a subtle orange-peel texture to be found in the watery fields. A true jewel to experience in-hand and undoubtedly choice for the assigned grade. In the late 1890s, the debate between the Free Silver advocates under William Jennings Bryan versus William McKinley and the Gold Bugs was in high gear. Bryan desired a monetary system where silver traded at its free market value alongside gold, while McKinley

advocated maintaining a gold standard. McKinley won the Presidential election and took office in 1897, the year the Philadelphia Mint struck 83 Proof half eagles. It is estimated that slightly less than two thirds of the total mintage are still extant, though many appear to have spent time in circulation as there are a number of impaired Proofs amongst the surviving numbers. Half eagle aficionados will certainly appreciate the beauty and elegance of this near-Gem Proof.

PCGS# 88492. NGC ID: 28D3.

PCGS Population: 1; 2 finer with the Cameo designation.

Stunning Gem Proof 1908 Half Eagle



10214 1908 Proof-65 (PCGS). CAC. The golden sandstone complexion of this stunning sand blast Proof \$5 majestically emphasizes the true beauty of Bela Lyon Pratt's incuse conception. The satiny surfaces remain entirely uninterrupted and serene, leaving nothing to distract from the inspiring nature of this numismatic treasure.

All 167 Proof half eagles struck in the first year of Pratt's Indian design were produced with a dark matte finish distinctive to the year. This finish proved to be quite unpopular with numismatists of the era, who decried it as dull. Demand for Proofs dropped off markedly while the Mint experimented with different types of finishes in

later years until finally ceasing Proof production in 1915. Tastes have changed in the intervening years and now these delicate glittering Proof coins are greatly appreciated and avidly collected. Fortunately, most surviving examples today are found unimpaired but are in constant demand by connoisseurs as well as those seeking the best example possible for the first year of issue. The CAC designation helps to convey the sheer impressiveness of this specimen that is destined to find a new home in a top quality Proof gold cabinet.

PCGS# 8539. NGC ID: 28000.

PCGS Population: 21; 15 finer.

EAGLES

Incredible Mint State 1799 Eagle



10215 1799 BD-10, Taraszka-22. Rarity-3. Large Obverse Stars. MS-62 (PCGS). This smooth and inviting piece exhibits a satiny texture that is a bit more vibrant on the reverse. The left obverse is lightly toned in pale pinkish-rose that contrasts with otherwise dominant green-gold patina throughout the balance of the coin. Impressively sharp in strike for an early U.S. Mint gold coin, this lovely Mint State eagle is sure to have no difficulty finding its way into an advanced collection.

Eighteenth century American coins have always captivated collectors of all types, and the gold coins from the era are especially desirous. The Philadelphia Mint struck 37,449 eagles in 1799, the year of George Washington's death. The issue comes in two major varieties with regards to

the obverse stars. It is generally believed that the Small Stars coins were the first struck and was used until the star punch broke. The punch was replaced by a "fatter and puffier" punch (as Garrett and Guth describe it) that continued to be employed for subsequent issues. The distribution between the varieties is somewhat equal, though the Large Stars variety appears to be the scarcer of the two. The eagle represented tremendous purchasing power at the time and fortunately for present-day numismatists a number are known in Mint State - PCGS has recorded 32 grading events at this level, which almost certainly include resubmissions. An enticing high grade survivor of Robert Scot's design from the early Federal period.

PCGS# 8562. NGC ID: 2623.

Highly Desirable 1801 Eagle Ten-Dollar Gold



10216 1801 BD-2, Taraszka-25. Rarity-2. MS-61 (PCGS). The medium-gold patina of this Mint State Eagle retains a remarkable luster that wholly saturates both sides. The devices are bold and generously frosted, juxtaposing the semi-prooflike reflectivity offered by the surrounding fields. Gloriously attractive and unarguably choice for the assigned grade.

44,344 eagles were struck in 1801 from two die pairings known. The BD-2 is the more common of the two and is identified by the thinner more delicate stars on the obverse. Their large size and availability in most grades to include Mint State examples have made this an extremely popular issue for type collectors seeking the thrilling combination of both beauty and quality.

PCGS# 8564. NGC ID: 2627.

Near-Mint 1801 Eagle



10217 1801 BD-2, Taraszka-25. Rarity-2. AU-58 (PCGS). This vibrant yellow-gold Eagle undeniably knocks on the door of Mint State preservation, displaying satiny, uninterrupted luster on both sides. Uniformly bold and intricate, without any distracting abrasions or blemishes to make note of.

An always popular issue thanks to its availability in the higher grade levels, the 1801 eagle has the second highest

rate of surviving specimens, making it a particular favorite for type collectors. Some numismatists have noted that AU-58 coins are often much more visually appealing than even some examples in lower Mint State levels and this coin is no exception. A delightful example for the budget conscious type collector who demands uncompromising quality.

PCGS# 8564. NGC ID: 2627.

Intriguing Extra-Star Reverse 1803 Eagle



10218 1803 BD-5, Taraszka-30. Rarity-4+. Large Reverse Stars, Extra Star. AU Details—Repaired (PCGS). The Extra Star attribution is not denoted on the PCGS insert. Vibrant green-gold surfaces also offer bold to sharp striking detail that is sure to entice the budget-minded type collector. Prominent adjustment marks over the lower left obverse are as struck, however that side of the coin has also been extensively tooled in an effort to efface graffiti, thereby explaining the PCGS qualifier.

The Extra Star variety was first noted by early gold collector par excellence Harry W. Bass, Jr. in the 1960s and

has mystified numismatists ever since. The star, found in the far rightmost cloud on the reverse, is markedly smaller than any of the other star punches employed for the eagle denomination. It appears to have been deliberately placed there as no plausible scenario where it would accidentally be entered into a working die can be theorized at this time. Only about 100 or so examples are thought to be known in all grades and are always popular among collectors fascinated by the mysterious.

PCGS# 98565. NGC ID: 2628.

Condition Rarity 1843 Liberty Eagle



10219 1843 MS-60 (NGC). Brilliant satin surfaces are aglow with inviting yellow gold patina. Sharply if not fully struck throughout, this impressive condition rarity is uncommonly free of singularly distracting abrasions for an early date Liberty eagle at the BU grade level. Although a seemingly available issue by 1840s Liberty eagle standards, the limited mintage of 75,462 pieces largely entered circulation and

stayed there until the individual coins were heavily worn or lost. Only a couple of survivors can claim Mint State status today, and this is one of those select few condition rarities. An enticing delight for the specialist.

PCGS# 8588, NGC ID: 262P

NGC Census: 3; 1 finer (MS-61 finest).

Key Date 1859-S Liberty Eagle



10220 1859-S AU-53 (NGC). Evenly toned in pleasing light honey-gold, this important coin offers uncommonly sharp definition for a surviving 1859-S eagle. The centers are crisply impressed from the dies, and minor softness of detail toward the borders is commonplace for many Liberty eagle issues from the 1850s. Satiny in texture with plenty of luster remaining, and uncommonly distraction-free for the grade. Only 7,000 eagles were struck in this year as the San

Francisco Mint continued to strike far more double eagles. Most of these eagles entered circulation unnoticed, leaving collectors to find out years later how truly rare *any* example of this issue is in numismatic hands. High grade pieces are especially rare, including any certified at the AU grade level or finer.

PCGS# 8630, NGC ID: 2643.

NGC Census: 5; 6 finer (a solitary MS-60 finest).

Elusive Near-Mint 1862 Eagle



10221 1862 AU-58 (PCGS). A rich honey-gold patina saturates this delightful Liberty \$10. The devices are bold and without noteworthy traces of handling, complementing the placid and semi-prooflike fields on both sides.

As the Civil War raged on and hopes for a swift conclusion dimmed, coins disappeared from circulation. Many eagles were either hoarded or exported abroad. The modest mintage of 10,960 pieces was somewhat below the normal production figures at the time for the Philadelphia Mint and would only decline further during the conflict. Almost all

surviving specimens seen in numismatic channels are found well worn. The issue is a undeniable condition rarity in AU and mostly unknown in Mint State. A very small group of uncirculated examples were found during the recovery operations of the *S. S. Republic* in 2003. As appealing an example as can be found from this distinctly rare and historic issue.

PCGS# 8635. NGC ID: 2649.

PCGS Population: 6; none finer at this service.

Remarkable Choice AU 1864 Eagle

The DiBello-Bass Specimen



10222 1864 AU-55 (PCGS). The surfaces of this low-mintage scarcity exhibit a rich golden-honey glow, with brighter khaki-gold tones haloing the motifs of both sides. A mild prooflike reflectivity graces the fields throughout and match up nicely to the boldly intricate devices.

Abraham Lincoln had won re-election in 1864 as the Civil War continued on, now with Ulysses S. Grant at the head of the Union Army. The war continued to have an effect on coin production and a mere 3,530 eagles were struck in 1864 at Philadelphia. The coins saw immediate

and heavy use, so that when this scarce issue is found, it is usually in VF condition. A top condition rarity at any AU level, even fewer are known in Mint State - perhaps half a dozen specimens, including a pair recovered from the *S.S. Republic*. A handsome rarity with a similarly impressive pedigree that is sure to inspire energetic bidding activity!

PCGS# 8639. NGC ID: 264D.

PCGS Population: 4; 2 finer at this service.

From our (Bowers and Merena's) sale of the Harry W. Bass, Jr. Collection, Part II, October 1999, lot 1495. Earlier from our (Stack's) sale of the DiBello Collection, May 1970, lot 1076.

Condition Rarity 1865 Eagle



10223 1865 AU-53 (PCGS). An elegant khaki-gold complexion radiates across this charming early Liberty Eagle. Despite the minimum quantity of circulation seen by the present example, the surfaces remain well composed and free of distracting blemishes. A mildly prooflike and remarkably beautiful low-mintage specimen.

Eagle production still remained at low levels in the final year of the Civil War. Only some 3,980 pieces were struck

and all entered circulation where they stayed. It is estimated that perhaps 50 to 75 examples are known in all grades, and like many of the other issues of the time, precious few in Mint State. Many of the higher grade pieces are prooflike and add to the overall appeal. A prize for any advanced eagle collector.

PCGS# 8641. NGC ID: 264E.

PCGS Population: 6; 8 finer.

Exceptionally Rare 1876 Eagle



10224 1876 AU-53 (PCGS). Deep yellow-gold hues adorn the wholesome surfaces of this pleasing centennial rarity. The fields offer a lovely prooflike reflectivity, handsomely juxtaposing the bold and frosty motifs throughout. Admirably preserved and without a distracting notion of any sort. Second only to the near-legendary 1875 eagle in terms of low production figures for Liberty eagles, a miniscule 687 pieces were struck for circulation at Philadelphia in the Centennial year. Numismatic preferences in the mid to late nineteenth century tended towards obtaining Proof examples for date collections instead of seeking out high

grade circulation strikes. As a result, almost all known specimens are in circulated grade. Despite the low mintage, the issue has a somewhat higher than usual survival rate, with an estimated 40 to 50 specimens extant, but practically all of them are in circulated grade levels up through AU-50, above which the issue is a serious challenge to locate. PCGS has certified only a single Mint State example at the MS-60 level. Astonishing in both rarity and eye appeal, specialists will cast a keen eye and a strong bid.

PCGS# 8674. NGC ID: 265C.

PCGS Population: 7; 4 finer at this service.

Condition Census 1883-CC Eagle



10225 1883-CC MS-61 (PCGS). This vibrant yellow-gold Carson City jewel displays a lively complexion throughout, haloing the bold devices with a soft and billowy luster. Handsomely preserved and without a single distracting notion on either side.

The West was built on a specie economy predicated on the power of coin over paper money, while in the East currency remained king. The production at Carson City was therefore focused primarily on serving the coin needs of the region, especially gold. Most of the 12,000 eagles struck there in 1883 were pressed into immediate service in circulation, where they remained and suffered the rigors of commerce.

The majority of the coins known are well circulated, often damaged pieces, all of which are eagerly acquired whenever they appear in the numismatic marketplace. AU examples stand on their own as significant condition rarities. PCGS and NGC have only recorded five grading events combined at the Mint State level which likely include at least one or two resubmissions. A notable condition rarity that will unquestionably make the Carson City enthusiast and Liberty eagle specialist take notice when this piece crosses the auction block.

PCGS# 8700. NGC ID: 2667.

PCGS Population: 2; none finer at this service.

Among the Finest Known 1885-S Eagles



10226 1885-S MS-64 (PCGS). Vivid orange-rose luster, boldly impressed features and a vibrant, satiny texture. This example is exceptionally well preserved for the issue, and sure to be of keen interest to advanced collectors of Liberty gold coinage. In 1885 the Washington Monument on the National Mall in the District of Columbia was dedicated and 228,000 eagles were struck at the San Francisco Mint. The 1885-S is not an especially rare issue and can be found with some degree of ease in AU and the lowest Mint-State levels.

However, as Garrett and Guth note in their *Encyclopedia*, the issue becomes very elusive at the MS-63 level. The population figures likely include resubmissions. This eagle is more challenging to locate than these figures may indicate. This example will reward the discerning collector for perseverance.

PCGS# 8707. NGC ID: 266E.

PCGS Population: 5; none finer at this service.

Stunning Ultra Cameo Proof 1893 Eagle



10227 1893 Proof-65 Ultra Cameo (NGC). The spectacular depth offered by the mirrored fields conveys a Cameo contrast that goes wholly unrivaled by the majority of Proof gold. Satiny golden frost blankets the motifs throughout this stunning Gem, contributing to a superior eye appeal that is sure to command fierce and enthusiastic bidding!

In the year of the last great nineteenth century financial panic, a miniscule 55 Proof eagles were struck at Philadelphia. Very few people could afford collecting Proof coins, especially in the larger denominations, and many went unsold. This was especially true during times of economic

hardship. It took many years for the nation's economy to recover from the effects of the Panic, which was in no small part exacerbated by a run on gold. It is likely several Proof eagles ended their days in circulation. Approximately one third of the mintage survive to this day, many of which are impaired. As a full Gem and with the desired Ultra Cameo designation, here is a rare survivor and a superb example of Proof gold of the era.

PCGS# 98833. NGC ID: 28FY.

NGC Census: 4; 2 finer.

Important Wire Rim 1907 Indian Eagle



10228 1907 Indian. Wire Rim, Periods. Judd-1901/1774, Pollock-1995. Rarity-3. MS-64+ (PCGS). CAC. Vivid yellow gold surfaces are silky smooth in texture with a lovely satin finish. Carefully produced, expertly preserved, and seemingly destined for inclusion in an advanced collection of Augustus Saint-Gaudens ever-popular Indian Head eagle.

As part of President Theodore Roosevelt's "pet crime" to beautify American coinage, he commissioned Augustus Saint-Gaudens to help with his plans starting with the two largest denominations. For the eagle, Saint-Gaudens elected to use the head of a woman wearing an Indian war bonnet taken from one of his original concepts for the double eagle. The design was first struck in August 1907 with a thin razor-like rim along the edge of the coin. In addition to the diagnostic wire rim, swirling raised die polish lines are clearly visible in the obverse and reverse fields, a feature that is particular to this issue.

Noted researcher Roger Burdette recently found that according to mint records, 542 examples were struck, and not the 500 that is often quoted for the issue. The initial production run of 500 coins took place in late August to early September 1907, followed up by a subsequent 42 coins struck between September and December. 70 of these

coins were later melted down during the First World War as undistributed or sold, leaving a net mintage of 472, small by any standard. The coins proved to be in high demand from the outset and were distributed to dignitaries or sold. Like their larger High Relief double eagle cousins, the moderately high relief and wire rim (or "fin" in Mint jargon) were seen as an impediment for stacking as well as leading to some problems with the coining equipment. Changes were made to eliminate the wire rim, which led to the exceptionally rare Rolled Rim variety, then finally the final lower relief version as modified by Chief Engraver Charles Barber that also removed the periods from the reverse.

The Wire Rim eagles stand as the closest examples to Saint-Gaudens' vision for the denomination and have remained popular among art aficionados as well as numismatists. Dave Bowers notes that there was a fairly high survival rate with some 400 or so known in all grades including a couple dozen in circulated grade, sometimes showing signs of mishandling. Both PCGS and CAC recognize the splendid eye appeal of the present coin, one that will delight its new owner for many years to come. A classic beauty fitting of the finest collection.

PCGS# 8850. NGC ID: 268B.

PCGS Population: 59; 27 finer.

Frosty Gem Mint State 1909-S Eagle



10229 1909-S MS-65 (PCGS). Billowy mint frost mingles with equally impressive rose-gold patina on both sides of this exceptional '09-S ten. The San Francisco Mint produced 292,350 eagles in 1909, but precious few survive today in Mint State. A hoard of roughly 50 to 60 examples turned up in 1977, but almost all of them graded between MS-60 to MS-63. Full Gem examples still remain elusive to this day.

The three finest examples of the issue - the Norweb, Price and Kruthoffer coins - were all obtained directly from the Mint. For the eagle specialist, an opportunity to add a Gem specimen of this conditionally elusive issue is a noteworthy event not to be missed.

PCGS# 8864. NGC ID: 28GP.

PCGS Population: 21; 7 finer.

Enticing Proof 1911 Eagle



10230 1911 Proof-66 (PCGS). Delectable mustard-gold surfaces exhibit a bold coarse grain sandblast finish that advanced 20th century gold collectors are sure to find irresistible. Fully struck and expertly preserved, it is difficult for us to imagine a more inviting Proof 1911 Indian eagle at the Gem level of preservation.

With a distinctive color unique to the Proof eagles for this year, this issue has been a favorite among Saint-Gaudens enthusiasts. The Proof finishes the Mint employed for gold coins at the time were not popular with numismatists and sales were at best marginal. Many contemporary accounts in

the numismatic press branded the coins as dull and lifeless, especially compared to the brilliant Proof specimens of the previous century. Tastes have certainly changed in the intervening decades and now the delicate sparkling quality of these finishes are cherished. A significant percentage of the 95 coins struck that year have been carefully preserved for collectors today to appreciate, including a number at the Proof-65 level. Above that, however, the issue is decidedly challenging. A Superb Gem example that is a sight to behold.

PCGS# 8893. NGC ID: 26YC.

PCGS Population: 6; 4 finer.

DOUBLE EAGLES

Mint State 1850 Double Eagle



10231 1850 MS-60 (PCGS). Even olive-gold patina blankets both sides of this satiny, smartly impressed piece. Appearing finer than the stated grade, the surfaces are free of significant contact with eye appeal that would support at least an MS-62 designation. A denomination created as a direct result of the vast discoveries of gold in California, the double eagle was established alongside the gold dollar in part to convert the raw gold into coined money more readily. While it is believed by some that just two specimens were struck bearing the date 1849 — the currently *unique* 1849 resides in the National Coin Collection at the Smithsonian Institution — more than one million of the new coins were struck at the Philadelphia Mint in 1850. The issue is always in demand by collectors as the first year of issue as intended for circulation. The coins were seemingly quickly

adopted, especially by bankers who preferred having such a significant amount of wealth in a smaller space. As a result, the vast majority of surviving specimens are found in the circulated grade levels. Indeed, of the somewhere between 3,000 and 5,000 specimens extant in all grades, perhaps only 2% of that number fall into full Mint State levels. Recent treasure ship finds have not bolstered the numbers; none of the 26 1850-dated double eagles found on the Central America are in Mint State. Our Gilded Age Collection sale earlier this year has further generated interest in Mint State double eagles. With lovely eye appeal and popularity, do not let this opportunity pass you by.

PCGS# 8902. NGC ID: 268F.

PCGS Population: 8; 71 finer (MS-64 finest).

Important 1855-S Double Eagle



10232 1855-S MS-61 (PCGS). Fully impressed with delightful honey-rose patina, this satiny to softly frosted example possesses superior eye appeal in a BU Type I Liberty double eagle. In the second year of operations at the San Francisco Mint, some 879,675 double eagles were struck. A popular denomination in the West, the coins saw heavy use and a fair number have survived to this day, albeit mostly in circulated grade levels. Prior to the recovery of the S. S. *Central America* treasure, full Mint State specimens were

very few and very far between. That hoard contained 324 1855-S double eagles, of which 100 or so were Mint State, increasing the availability somewhat. The issue's popularity has not diminished in the least bit and today, quality specimens are always in constant demand. A superior piece of California Gold Rush history.

PCGS# 8916. NGC ID: 268X.

PCGS Population: 28; 49 finer.

Historic 1861-S Paquet Double Eagle

Perennially Popular One-Year Design Type



10233 1861-S A.C. Paquet Reverse. AU Details—Repaired (PCGS). Handsome olive-orange patina blankets the obverse, while the reverse is equally attractive in a slightly warmer honey-rose color. The eye appeal is superior in light of the stated qualifier, both sides quite satiny in texture with the devices boldly to sharply defined. The repair is fairly minor and rather well executed, to the point where it does not adversely affect the overall presentation of the coin. Possibly mounted on the reverse at one point in time, evidence of solder removal is noted for the inside of the eagle's left (facing) wing, and the field within the circle of stars above the eagle has been extensively, yet expertly tooled. Still an aesthetically pleasing piece, as noted, and highly desirable given the rarity and desirability of this one year design type in the Liberty double eagle series.

One of the most historic and popular of all the double eagle issues, the Paquet reverse coins have a storied past. The engraver, Anthony C. Paquet, was originally from Germany and emigrated to the United States in 1848 where he started an engraving business in New York. Not long after, Paquet was hired on as assistant engraver at the Philadelphia Mint in 1857, where he engraved several signed and unsigned medals, including the first pattern Medal of Honor. His

work on circulation coin dies is not well-understood except in one instance: the double eagle reverse. Paquet's stylistic preferences included a tall rather thin font unlike any logotype Chief Engraver James Longacre utilized. Paquet prepared four pairs of dies in November 1860 which were shipped to San Francisco in December. On January 5, 1861 production with Paquet's dies began at the Philadelphia Mint, but was promptly halted when it was found that the narrow rim of the reverse design (made so to accommodate the tall letters) would lead to poor wearing characteristics. In an attempt to halt production before it could start, Mint Director James Ross Snowden sent an order to the San Francisco Mint via telegraph and overland express. Unfortunately for Snowden, because of the length of time to get a message across country at the time, some 19,250 double eagles with Paquet's reverse were struck and entered circulation before the cease order arrived. Today, approximately 100 S-mint examples are in numismatic circles, none of which have been certified at the Mint State level by either PCGS or NGC, leaving precious few for today's collector to admire. Any example of the type is eagerly sought and always draws attention.

PCGS# 8936. NGC ID: 269L.

Fabled Mint State 1865 Double Eagle



10234 1865 MS-62 (NGC). Splendid pinkish-gold surfaces are bursting with razor sharp striking detail and vibrant satin luster. At the conclusion of the Civil War, 351,200 double eagles were struck, a fair number of which were hoarded and quite often melted down. As a result, until recently, the majority of coins found in numismatic circles were in circulated grade levels. This changed in 2003 when Odyssey Marine Exploration located the debris field of the *S. S. Republic*. The *Republic* sank off the coast of Georgia on October 25, 1865, taking with it approximately \$400,000 face value in coin and costing the lives of some two dozen crew members and passengers. In all, Odyssey recovered

more than 17,000 coins, to include nearly 3,000 gold coins, among which were some 300 1865 double eagles, many of which were found to be in uncirculated condition after conservation. While the recovery added to the population of known examples and changed the dynamic of Mint State figures somewhat, the issue remains as popular as ever. With the added significance of the association with the *Republic*, this example provides a perfect combination of history and beauty.

PCGS# 8943. NGC ID: 269U.

Ex: *S.S. Republic*.

Important 1871-CC Double Eagle Rarity



10235 1871-CC EF-45 (PCGS). A handsomely preserved low mintage scarcity with pleasing yellow-gold hues painting each delicately circulated side. The more protected areas are bolstered by a frothy tuft of luster haloing the adjacent motifs, which remain uniformly bold throughout. Exhibiting a wholesome aesthetic that is absolutely irresistible when experienced in-hand.

The 1871-CC double eagle is one of the significant issues from this famed Western mint and is widely considered the second rarest Carson City issue after the famed 1870-CC. The second year the Carson City Mint was opened, records show that 17,387 coins were struck. These entered circulation

immediately and stayed there, where they became very worn. Some have even suffered some modern day ill treatment through harsh cleaning. AU specimens are few and far between and uncirculated coins are almost mythical - only seven grading events are noted by both services combined, a figure that meshes nicely with Dave Bowers' own survival estimates. Choice examples in any grade level are eagerly sought and one with such considerable eye appeal will be the focus of particular attention.

PCGS# 8961. NGC ID: 26AB.

PCGS Population: 46; 30 finer (MS-60 finest at this service).

Choice AU 1872-CC Double Eagle



10236 1872-CC AU-55 (NGC). A satiny khaki-gold patina dances across this pleasing Carson City example. Nicely bold, and exhibiting lively, silken fields throughout. A minor grease streak (as struck) is visible in the left obverse field, however, this remains a charming relic of the late 19th Century minting practices.

A modest 26,900 coins were struck at the Carson City Mint from one obverse die and three reverse dies. The coins saw extensive use in the West where they suffered from occasional damage and abrasions in addition to the normal

rigors of circulation. Most of the some 250 to 350 or so coins believed to still be extant are in the EF to AU range. True uncirculated coins are of extreme rarity: Q. David Bowers postulates that no more than 5 or so exist, though NGC records 12 grading events at the Mint State level, no doubt including resubmissions. A Choice AU example of the first Carson City double eagle that is generally available to numismatists, is a noteworthy event and warrants a strong bid accordingly.

PCGS# 8964. NGC ID: 26AE.

Condition Rarity 1873-CC Twenty



10237 1873-CC AU-55 (NGC). The bright, medium-gold patina that blankets this Carson City example is accented by pockets of billowy luster surrounding the motifs on both sides.

Unlike the 1873-dated double eagles struck at Philadelphia and San Francisco, only the Close 3 variety was employed at Carson City. Production was still in the process of ramping up and a modest 22,410 coins were struck.

Western commerce preferred the use of coins as versus currency and were not exported in any appreciable quantity. The specimens seen in numismatic circles today are mostly in the circulated grade levels frequently heavily bagmarked, and in Mint State the issue become prohibitively rare. A desirable example for the discerning Carson City enthusiast.

PCGS# 8968. NGC ID: 26AJ.

Near-Choice 1875-CC Double Eagle



10238 1875-CC MS-62 (PCGS). Vivid honey-rose patina greets the viewer from both sides of this bright, satiny example. Both the quality of strike and level of surface preservation are superior in a Type II double eagle, especially one from the fabled Carson City Mint. Unlike many of their cousins from Eastern mints, the double eagles struck at Carson City entered circulation and stayed there since gold was preferred over paper money for transferring large stores of wealth. As a result, while the 1875-CC double eagle is a relatively

available common coin in circulated condition, Mint State examples are not as frequently encountered. When such specimens do appear, most suffer from surface abrasions. Coins with superior eye appeal and minimal contact marks are eagerly pursued and will generate interest from Carson City enthusiasts, but also the discriminating type collector looking for a quality specimen of the Type II double eagle.

PCGS# 8974. NGC ID: 26AT.

Attractive BU 1875-CC Double Eagle



10239 1875-CC MS-62 (PCGS). Vivid orange-gold patina with a touch of light rose iridescence greets the viewer from both sides of this bright, satiny example of this Mint State double eagle from the ever-popular Carson City Mint. With a sufficiently large mintage of 111,151 pieces, the 1875-CC double eagle is a popular and available issue. Like many of the coins produced at the Carson City Mint, they entered circulation in the specie-starved West and stayed there, so while it is one of the more common of the double eagles

struck at this mint, it is most often found in circulated grades. On the few times it is found in Mint State, the 1875-CC is almost invariably seen at the lowest levels and quite heavily abraded. The coin becomes challenging to locate in Choice Mint State and PCGS has graded a single MS-64 specimen as the finest in their population figures. Here is a seldom seen opportunity for the Mint State double eagle collector and aficionado of this storied Western mint.

PCGS# 8974. NGC ID: 26AT.

Satiny 1875-CC Double Eagle



10240 1875-CC MS-61 (PCGS). Billowy satin luster envelops both sides in a light, even, honey-gold color. Bold to sharp in strike, with solid Mint State quality to further define the conditionally rare status of this Carson City Mint twenty. Long popular among collectors for its availability, the 1875-CC double eagle affords the opportunity for quality-conscious collectors to obtain an example of this impressive

denomination from the Old West. Some 111,151 coins were struck at the Carson City Mint that year, making it one of the more available issues, though finding just the right specimen to add to one's collection can prove a challenge. This example will reward your patience.

PCGS# 8974. NGC ID: 26AT.

A Fourth Mint State 1875-CC Twenty



10241 1875-CC MS-61 (NGC). Vibrant honey-gold tones saturate this lustrous Mint State example, accompanied by well-pronounced and elegant devices on both sides. The fields exhibit a frothy complexion and are left nicely untroubled throughout. The cartwheeling nature of this glamorous Carson City specimen renders it decidedly choice for the assigned grade.

The most available of the Type II double eagles from this

mint and a popular issue for numismatists seeking a Mint State example. Production had stepped up significantly and 111,151 pieces were struck this year, but like the earlier issues, the coins saw immediate and heavy use in the West. Many Carson City double eagles are heavily abraded and lack eye appeal as a consequence. This specimen stands firmly above the crowd.

PCGS# 8974. NGC ID: 26AT.

Condition Rarity 1878-CC Double Eagle



10242 1878-CC AU-58 (PCGS). This prooflike beauty exhibits semi-reflective fields that form a splendid backdrop to boldly impressed devices. The entire coin is draped in vivid orange-gold patina that enhances already strong eye appeal. A paltry 13,180 pieces were struck in 1878 at Carson City, making it one of the rarest double eagle issues struck at the Nevada facility. This issue is somewhat available in the mid-grade circulated levels but becomes much more challenging in near-Mint and Mint-State, a common situation with the double eagles from this mint. In general, this denomination

was frequently seen in commerce, unlike many issues from the other mints which often spent quite a bit of time in vaults. As a result, most Carson City coins are quite difficult to obtain in choice condition and this issue is no exception. At the AU-58 level, this is among the top tier as a pair of MS-62 grading events currently garner the top spot at PCGS. With a combination of rarity, condition, and eye appeal, this is a coin to be cherished for years to come.

PCGS# 8986. NGC ID: 26B4.

PCGS Population: 11; 6 finer at this service.

Beautiful 1882-CC Double Eagle



10243 1882-CC MS-62 (PCGS). Frosty and sharply struck, this lovely Mint State twenty also sports handsomely original color in a vivid orange-rose. While the mintage of 39,140 coins would indicate quite a scarce coin, the 1882-CC double eagle is somewhat available in circulated condition, but is quite challenging in Mint State. Many of the double eagles produced at the Nevada facility entered circulation and stayed there, with many ending up in melting pots later on. In *A Guide Book of Double Eagle Gold Coins*, Q. David Bowers estimates that roughly 70 to 100 Mint State specimens

exist. Of those, the vast majority are at the lowest levels. At MS-62 and above, the issue is a significant condition rarity and is unknown at the Gem level. The serious Carson City enthusiast should not pass up any opportunity to add such a specimen to their cabinet.

A prominent scratch on the back of the PCGS holder is noted and may be visible in our printed and online images of this coin.

PCGS# 8997. NGC ID: 26BF.

PCGS Population: 23; 3 finer (MS-63 finest at this service).

Choice Near-Mint 1882-CC Double Eagle



10244 1882-CC AU-58 (NGC). The fields of this near-Mint State Carson City example offer a semi-prooflike reflectivity and remain nicely undisturbed for the assigned grade. Liberty is left bold and intricate on the obverse, matching well with the central reverse motifs. The luster is uninterrupted on both sides and contributes to the gorgeous aesthetic offered by the present piece. A modest 39,140 double eagles were struck at Carson City in 1882, but are reasonably available

in most grades up to Mint State thanks to the occasional find in overseas hoards. As with many other double eagles from this mint, this is an issue that spent quite a bit of time in daily commerce and as a consequence, Mint State examples are quite rare. With superior eye appeal that competes favorably with full Mint State specimens, this coin is sure to please.

PCGS# 8997, NGC ID: 26BF

Exceptionally Well-Preserved 1884-CC Double Eagle



10245 1884-CC MS-62 (PCGS). This smartly impressed, frosty-textured example also exhibits beautiful toning in a warm, even, orange-gold. 1884 proved to be a significant turning point for the Carson City Mint. That year saw the election of Grover Cleveland, a well-known opponent to silver, an election that would soon have consequences for the mint. The following year, after a short production run, the mint was all closed for the next four years. Despite this, the 1884-CC double eagle is among the more available issues from the Carson City Mint, but mostly in the lower grade levels. A number of low-level Mint State coins have come

from foreign holdings located in the 1950s, but very few are known in higher states of preservation. The finest PCGS has so far recorded are 8 grading events at the MS-63 level, which no doubt include resubmissions. Even recent finds such as the Saddle Ridge Hoard have not bolstered the known quantities as only two coins of the issue were in the find. To find a delightful example of an historic issue is always a notable event.

PCGS# 9001, NGC ID: 26BK

PCGS Population: 51; 8 finer.

Landmark 1885 Double Eagle Rarity

Condition Census



10246 1885 MS-62 (PCGS). Secure Holder. Fully prooflike in finish, this gorgeous piece exhibits pronounced contrast between reflective fields and sharp, satiny devices. The entire coin is draped in original light orange patina that enhances exceptional eye appeal. A beautiful Mint State example of a classic rarity in the Type III Liberty double eagle series.

With the exception of 1888, the Philadelphia Mint struck very few double eagles throughout the 1880s. In 1885 only 751 coins were struck, making this one of the lowest mintage figures for circulation strike coins of the entire Liberty double eagle series, exceeded only by the 1882 and the 1861 Paquet Reverse coins. During this period, double eagles mostly circulated in the West, while in the East and the South there was not much call for the denomination since newly issued Silver and Gold

Certificates were easily convertible into coin if so desired. The San Francisco Mint furnished the West's need for the gold coins, resulting in low mintages at Philadelphia. When collectors wished to obtain a specimen for the year, most would opt for the Proof coins. It is currently estimated that some 100 or so specimens exist in any grade, a significant percentage of the overall mintage. The majority of the surviving examples are in the EF to AU levels. Not a single Gem example has been recorded by either grading services and only two grading events are noted at the MS-63 level by PCGS. This is a seldom encountered opportunity for the serious Liberty double eagle specialist to add a landmark rarity to his or her cabinet.

PCGS# 9003.

PCGS Population: 4; 2 finer at this service.

Important 1889-CC Double Eagle



10247 1889-CC MS-63 (PCGS). Softly frosted in texture with beautiful medium orange patina, this charming, sharply struck example is exceptionally well preserved for a Carson City double eagle irrespective of date. The election of 1884 proved to have a profound impact on the mint at Carson City. Grover Cleveland was a noted opponent of silver, so when he took office in 1885, his administration suspended all coining activities at Carson City and the facility remained all but closed throughout his first term in office. In 1889, after vigorous campaigning by Nevada's senator William M. Stewart to the newly elected Benjamin Harrison administration, the Carson City Mint reopened and resumed production of silver dollars and double eagles. Unlike in the East, double eagles saw moderate use in the

Western states, thus most surviving examples are found in the higher circulated grade levels. A sizable number of coins found their way abroad, where they remained until after World War II. Starting in earnest during the 1950s, many examples found their way back to the United States and have become eagerly sought for collections ever since. In our August 2012 Battle Born Collection sale, noted Carson City Mint expert Rusty Goe remarked that approximately 4% to 5% of the total mintage of 30,945 double eagles survive, with that being an optimistic estimate. This is a superb example of an ever-popular Carson City double eagle rarity.

PCGS# 9011. NGC ID: 26BV.

PCGS Population: 6; only 1 finer at this service.

Exceptional Near-Gem 1889-S Double Eagle



10248 1889-S MS-64 (NGC). This pleasing near-Gem exhibits a rich yellow-gold patina with suggestions of rose-gold hues to be found on the reverse. The motifs display a pleasing intricacy on both sides, nicely accompanying the brightly cartwheeling surrounding fields. As with many of the later nineteenth century double eagles, the 1889-S can be found with modest effort in the lower Mint State levels, but

becomes quite a challenging prospect to find one Choice or finer. The fairly significant number of grading events noted by NGC no doubt includes resubmissions hoping to achieve the vaunted Gem level. A superb example that will fit perfectly in a specialist's cabinet.

PCGS# 9012. NGC ID: 26BW.

NGC Census: 38; 2 finer (both MS-65).

A Second Choice 1889-S Double Eagle



10249 1889-S MS-64 (NGC). Well struck and vibrantly satiny, this khaki-gold example boasts a subtle pinkish hue throughout the reverse. The San Francisco Mint struck 774,700 pieces in 1889, a large but normal output from the California facility. A significant number of them were shipped overseas where they resided for decades. As we noted in our Gilded Age Collection sale in August of this year, until the 1960s the issue was very rare in Mint State until some of the

foreign holdings started to unveil their contents. While these accumulations yielded many high-end AU and lower level Mint State pieces, higher grade specimens continue to remain elusive. Chances to add a near-Gem example should not be overlooked.

PCGS# 9012. NGC ID: 26BW.

NGC Census: 38; 2 finer (both MS-65).

Remarkable Gem 1892-S Double Eagle



10250 1892-S MS-65+ (PCGS). CAC. This satiny premium-Gem offers pleasing medium-gold patination and an impressively thorough strike on both sides. Remarkably lustrous and undisturbed, the level of preservation presented here can not be improved upon in a PCGS holder.

Many of the double eagle issues from this period were used heavily in the international trade and were shipped overseas to Europe and South America and the 1892-S double eagles were no exception. As attempts to encourage European governments to adopt a bimetallic standard failed, more and more gold was shipped overseas where they would remain for decades. When the vast foreign holdings started their return homeward after the Second World War, formerly scarce dates became available once more. Now, the 1892-S is

available up through the Choice Mint State grades. While in storage, bags of double eagles would periodically be counted and jostled around, and thanks to their heavy weight and soft metal, they were easily abraded. Consequently, the great majority of the Mint State coins that survive are in the lower end of the spectrum. Gem specimens are quite rare: Mike Fuljenz and Doug Winter remarked in Type Three Double Eagles: 1877-1907 that they could account for only 20 to 25 coins that grade MS-64 or higher. A superb Gem Mint State specimen that will be extraordinarily difficult to find any finer.

PCGS# 9021. NGC ID: 26C7.

PCGS Population: 4; none finer at this service.

Radiant Gem 1892-S Double Eagle



10251 1892-S MS-65 (NGC). An impressive level of intricacy validates an impassioned strike, complimenting the cartwheeling and untroubled surfaces throughout. This exceptional condition rarity delivers an aesthetic that is most often associated with pieces graded at least a point or two finer. With a mintage of 930,150 coins, the 1892-S

is frequently available in all grades up through the Choice Mint State level. Gem pieces are remarkably rare and are eagerly pursued for inclusion in the finest double eagle collections.

PCGS# 9021. NGC ID: 26C7.

NGC Census: 6; 1 finer (MS-66).

Attractive Cameo Proof 1898 Liberty Double Eagle



10252 1898 Proof-60 Cameo (NGC). This richly toned, deep orange specimen is fully struck with mostly small, wispy, singularly inconspicuous contact marks to define the grade. Nicely cameoed in finish, as well, the eye appeal of this piece could easily support a higher numeric grade. A mere 75 double eagles were struck in Proof format in 1898, and most seen today would qualify for Cameo or Ultra (Deep) Cameo designations. The dies were prepared to create this fantastic level of contrast between the fields and the devices, which

came out beautifully on these Proof coins from the waning years of the 19th century. Today, there are no more than 30 to 40 Proof 1898 double eagles extant, according to Ron Guth, which is certainly a minuscule number considering how many collectors are eager to own an example from this era for Proof gold type or date purposes.

PCGS# 89114. NGC ID: 26EK.

NGC Census: 2; 19 finer within the Cameo designation (Proof-66 Cameo finest).

Stunning Gem Flat Rim MCMVII Double Eagle



10253 MCMVII (1907) Saint-Gaudens. High Relief. Flat Rim. MS-65 (PCGS). Exceptionally well preserved with rich yellow gold patina and bold satin luster, this is a simply outstanding example of the ever-popular High Relief Saint-Gaudens double eagle.

The High Relief MCMVII Saint-Gaudens double eagles are an American classic that have always drawn attention. Disgusted by the "atrocious hideousness" of the coins then in circulation, President Theodore Roosevelt teamed up with sculptor Augustus Saint-Gaudens in what Roosevelt referred to as his "Pet Crime" to redesign the coinage starting with the highest denomination. Saint-Gaudens modeled the obverse after his Winged Nike figure on the General William Tecumseh Sherman Memorial in New York and paired it with a stunning flying eagle reverse. Because of the very high relief desired to showcase Saint-Gaudens' design, each coin required at a minimum three to five strikes per coin plus be hand inspected after each strike - a process that

seriously slowed down production. Further complicating this process, any misalignment of the dies would result in a "fin" that interfered with the stacking capabilities of the coins. A second collar was employed that largely eliminated the Wire Rim variety, but did not speed up the minting process. Unfortunately, Augustus Saint-Gaudens died on August 3, 1907, just as his vision was becoming reality as a circulating coin. To accommodate high-speed production (and despite Roosevelt's protestations), a lower relief version furnished by Chief Engraver Charles Barber was employed and high speed production could begin in earnest. The Flat Rim variety is found on only one-third of the 11,250 coins struck for circulation and is significantly scarcer as a result. Intensely popular and widely considered America's most beautiful coin, a Gem Mint State specimen will command the respect of numismatists and art connoisseurs everywhere for generations to come.

PCGS# 9136. NGC ID: 26F2.



10254 1908 No Motto. MS-68 (NGC). Exquisite rose-gold surfaces are boldly impressed, expertly preserved, and possessed of simply outstanding quality in an example of this ever-popular type issue from the second year in the Saint-Gaudens double eagle series. This coin was struck shortly before Congress demanded the Motto be added to Augustus Saint-Gaudens' original design, creating two distinct types

for the year. A condition rarity this well preserved, although a significant number were found in the Wells Fargo Hoard. Even so, Superb Gems are always a welcome addition to any advanced collection.

PCGS# 99142. NGC ID: 26F6.

Ex: Wells Fargo Nevada Gold.

Low Mintage 1909-D Double Eagle Rarity



10255 1909-D MS-64+ (NGC). Softly lustrous with original rose-orange patina, this snappy near-Gem makes a lovely visual impression. With a scant 52,500 coins struck at the Denver Mint in 1909, this issue is an eagerly sought-after key date for the series. Prior to the 1960s, Mint State examples were few and far between, and even then only at the lowest levels. Beginning in the 1960s, significant finds from Swiss and French bank holdings that have been repatriated over the

years, augmented by a large hoard of coins from El Salvador, have helped to raise the number of available specimens. Despite these finds, choice specimens remain elusive and perhaps just two dozen Gem examples are known. A near-Gem example is a condition rarity in its own right and will be keenly pursued by Saint-Gaudens double eagle enthusiasts.

PCGS# 9152.

NGC Census: 3, 8 finer.

Conditionally Scarce Gem 1915 Double Eagle



10256 1915 MS-65 (NGC). Outstanding medium gold surfaces exhibit a satiny surface. The strike is razor sharp. This carefully preserved Gem belongs in an advanced collection of Saint-Gaudens gold. While World War I raged in Europe at places like Ypres and Gallipoli, 1915 was also the year of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition in San Francisco and the laying of the first stone of the Lincoln Memorial on the National Mall in Washington, DC. The Philadelphia Mint struck a fairly limited number of double eagles that

year — 152,000 coins — as compared to the mintage in San Francisco. 1915 double eagles are somewhat available at lower Mint State levels; they are a serious challenge above MS-64. The number of available Gem specimens drops off precipitously at MS-65 and it is always noteworthy when one comes up for sale. These coins are almost always sharply struck, and their rich color offers considerable eye appeal.

PCGS# 9167.

NGC Census: 41, 1 finer (MS-66).

Frosty 1926-D Double Eagle



10257 1926-D MS-62 (PCGS). This otherwise light honey example also reveals overtones of pale rose patina as the surfaces rotate under a light. Like many of the later Saint-Gaudens double eagles, the 1926-D issue saw little, if any, actual circulation and its mintage of 481,000 coins falsely gives the impression of a common coin. Instead, the coins were predominantly stockpiled in Treasury vaults until scarcely ten years later almost the entire mintage ended up in the melting pot. Most of the 200 to 300 survivors that are

known in numismatic circles today are found in the lower Mint State grade levels. Gem specimens are extremely rare; PCGS has only recorded all of five grading *events* in Gem and higher levels. Sharply struck with a decidedly frosty finish from the dies, this solidly graded Mint State example should have little difficulty finding its way into a specialized collection of Saint-Gaudens double eagles.

PCGS# 9184. NGC ID: 26GE.

COMMEMORATIVE SILVER COINS

Gem Proof 1893 Isabella Quarter Rarity Sole Gem Cameo Certified by NGC



10258 1893 Isabella Quarter. Proof-65 Cameo (NGC). Brilliant ice white surfaces possess uncommonly full striking detail for the type that help to confirm the coveted Proof status. Also of note in this regard is the finish, which combines radiant reflectivity in the fields with a soft satin texture over the devices. A simply outstanding Gem that would serve as a highlight in the finest collection of classic commemorative coinage. According to Walter Breen's *Complete Encyclopedia*, 103 Proofs were minted, but the details of their distribution

are now shrouded in mystery; perhaps we can reasonably infer that some or even most were presented to officials connected with the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition staged in Chicago. NGC has certified fewer than 50 Proof Isabella quarters over the years, only two of which have been designated as either *Cameo* (this identical specimen) or *Deep Cameo* (a sole coin grading Proof-63).

PCGS# 89221.

Stunning MS-68 1935/34-D Boone Half Dollar

Top 1% of PCGS-Certified Population



10259 1935/1934-D Boone Bicentennial. MS-68 (PCGS). The lustrous and silvery centers of this gorgeous Denver Mint Commemorative become rapidly saturated with rainbow iridescence at the peripheries of both sides. An impressive satiny complexion graces the immaculate surfaces throughout, providing a beautiful aesthetic to compliment

the lofty level of preservation exhibited by this Superb Gem. The 1935/34-D is a scarce variety with a scant net mintage of just 2,003 pieces. Less than 1% of the examples certified by PCGS have been awarded an MS-68 designation.

PCGS# 9263. NGC ID: 28JK.

PCGS Population: 7; none finer.

A Second Condition Rarity 1935/34-S Boone Half Dollar

Tied as Finest Certified by PCGS



10260 1935/34-S Boone Bicentennial. MS-68 (PCGS). The satiny and brilliant surfaces of this Top Pop Boone are accented by slim amber crescents at the borders of both sides. Nicely impressed and satiny throughout. Only 2,004 examples were distributed, making this one of the smallest production figures for a 20th-century U.S. coin. Examples grading MS-67 are decidedly very rare, and only two coins have been

encapsulated by PCGS at the MS-68 level, thereby firmly ensconcing this specimen in the top 1% of the entire PCGS-certified population.

PCGS# 9264. NGC ID: 28JL.

PCGS Population: 2; none finer.

Ex: Heller Collection.

Amazing Superb Gem 1935-S Boone Half Dollar

Sole Finest Certified by PCGS



10261 1935-S Boone Bicentennial. MS-68 (PCGS). Variety without small 1934. Lilac and emerald pastels adorn this lustrous Superb Gem, garnishing its position as the finest example of this issue in a PCGS holder! From a distribution of just 5,005 pieces. Literally one in a thousand! Although the 1935-S is readily available in grades up to MS-66, the ranks thin out dramatically at the MS-67 level. At the very

top of the grade distribution, there's a solitary MS-68 (this coin) certified by PCGS, and another at the same grade by NGC.

PCGS# 9260. NGC ID: 28JH.

PCGS Population: 1; none finer.

Ex: Heller.

Virtually Perfect 1938-D Boone Half Dollar

Among the Finest Extant



10262 1938-D Boone Bicentennial. MS-68 (PCGS). Mostly violet, but with rich gold and blue pastels at the borders, this beautifully pristine example exhibits a satiny cartwheeling complexion dancing across both sides. One of the rarest issues in the commemorative half dollar series; only 2,100 examples were issued. The grade distribution for the 1938-

D is essentially a bell curve with most examples in the range from MS-64 to MS-66. MS-67 coins are elusive, and pieces at the MS-68 level — as offered here — are extremely rare.

PCGS# 9275. NGC ID: 28JV.

PCGS: 2; 2 finer (MS-69 finest).

Ex: Heller Collection.

Splendid 1938-S Boone Half Dollar

Tied as Finest Certified by PCGS



10263 1938-S Boone Bicentennial. MS-68 (PCGS). Deep amber and magenta patination inhabits the peripheries of this virtually flawless San Francisco Boone. The centers are bathed in a satiny and lustrous lilac hue, emphasizing the pristine and well struck surfaces throughout. This Top Pop example has been pedigreed to two prestigious PCGS Registry Sets and is anxiously awaiting the chance to shine in a third! Only 2,100 examples were minted, and most

survivors are in the MS-64 to MS-66 range. A scant two examples have been certified by PCGS at the MS-68 level, with none higher. A prize for the collector who desires the finest quality available.

PCGS# 9276. NGC ID: 28JW.

PCGS Population: 2; none finer.

From Heritage's FUN Signature Sale of January 2005, lot 30595. Ex: J.F.S. Collection; Jewell Collection.

Majestic Gettysburg Half Dollar

Top 1% of Certified Population



10264 1936 Gettysburg Anniversary. MS-67+ (PCGS). Autumnal amber and magenta iridescence characterizes this gorgeous Gettysburg half dollar. The surfaces are pristine and well-struck throughout. This coin is in the top 1% of all Gettysburg half dollars certified by PCGS; although more than 5,000 examples have been encapsulated over the years,

only seven have been awarded a grade of MS-67+ or finer. Issued two years early to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the famous Civil War battle.

PCGS# 9305. NGC ID: 28KB.

PCGS Population 5; 2 finer (MS-68 finest).

Pristine MS-68 1926-S Oregon Trail Half Dollar



10265 1926-S Oregon Trail Memorial. MS-68 (PCGS). The satiny surfaces of this pristine Oregon Trail half are decorated in gold and violet tones that enhance the undisturbed underlying luster. Fully struck and displaying impressive intricacy that would have certainly made the Frasers proud. A more flawless example cannot be found in a PCGS holder, nor can a more delightfully original example be found at

any grade! Although many 1926-S Oregon Trail half dollars have been certified in the range from MS-62 to MS-66, the issue is scarce in MS-67, and extremely rare at the MS-68 level. Only one example in 500 PCGS coins could match the quality offered here.

PCGS# 9341. NGC ID: 28KX.

PCGS Population: 6; none finer.

COMMEMORATIVE GOLD COINS

Regal Norse-American Medal in Gold



10266 1925 Norse-American Centennial Medal. Gold. Swoger-24C. Proof-66 (NGC). This beautiful Sand Blast medal exhibits handsome mustard gold patina and myriad sparkling facets to the finish — quite like a Proof Indian or Saint-Gaudens gold coin of the 1911 to 1915 era. Both sides are expertly preserved and free of the “shiny spots” often seen on lower quality Sand Blast Proof gold pieces. The quality and eye appeal are outstanding for this rare and highly coveted commemorative medal type.

The design was by James Earle Fraser. Obv. Viking warrior in horned helmet with sword and shield advances from dragon ship, NORSE AMERICAN CENTENNIAL, 1825 - 1925. Rev. Dragon ship sailing r. under 4-line inscription, AUTHORIZED BY/ CONGRESS OF THE/ UNITED STATES/ OF AMERICA. with date of Leif Erikson's discovery below, A.D. 1000. One of 100 struck in gold, 53 of which were melted unsold, leaving a net mintage of only 47. After 83 years, the larger part of this surviving mintage has been lost or destroyed, leaving a mere handful of gold Norse pieces in existence. The present example with its high grade is a significant rarity and of the greatest interest to collectors of U.S. commemorative coins as well as to the rapidly increasing body of medal enthusiasts. All Norse pieces were struck with octagonal planchets, and the thick and thin silver strikes were almost the same overall diameter as U.S. commemorative half dollars. Coin collectors were given notice of the Norse-American pieces when Wayte Raymond included spaces for them in his national albums of American commemorative coins. The gold specimens were unknown to most collectors, although one who remembered them was the late Max Brail of Jackson, Michigan, who long remembered acquiring one for \$20 in the year of issue.

The guiding spirit behind the Norse issue was Representative Ole Juulson Kvale (1869-1929) of the Seventh Congressional District of Minnesota, which included Minneapolis. A Lutheran pastor, Kvale officiated at the second wedding of a brash, reform-minded fellow congressman from New York City, Fiorello H. LaGuardia. Kvale wanted a commemorative half dollar, but since six issues were already authorized for 1925 he had to be content with a medal struck by the Philadelphia Mint with an eight-sided format assuring against confusion with coins. The bold use of Viking imagery has led many collectors to believe that the pieces hailed the voyage of Leif Erikson in 1000 AD. However, the event actually honored took place 800 years later, the arrival of the first organized immigration of Norwegians to the United States. This band of immigrants arrived on the sloop *Restaurationen* in 1825, settling in Orleans County, New York. This sloop appeared on a two-cent stamp hailing the same anniversary, paired with a five-cent stamp with the dragon ship. Individual Norwegians had arrived during the colonial era and more significant numbers came in the 19th century, settling in Minnesota and the upper Northwest. The 1825 event was chosen because of the organized character of the immigration. Commemorative maven Anthony Swiatek researched the Norse in his article “A Proud Heritage, the Story of the 1925 Norse Commemorative” in the June 1982 issue of *The Numismatist*. The artist's signature OPUS FRASER led one dealer to assert, “that must be the brother of James Earle Fraser,” when in fact it was Latin for “the work of Fraser.” With its romantic history and outstanding rarity, this plain edge gold Norse Centennial piece is destined for inclusion in a great collection.

PCGS# 9452. NGC ID: 28NU.

A Second 1925 Norse-American Medal Rarity in Gold



10267 1925 Norse-American Centennial Medal. Gold. Swoger-24C. Matte Proof-65 (PCGS). Handsome honey-gold patination is indoctrinated with faint teal suggestions in some areas, nicely echoing the nautical notions of this Matte Proof Gem. Fully struck, and with uninterrupted luster, the present offering is surely among the most beautiful examples of this low-mintage issue.

One of 100 struck in gold, 53 of which were melted unsold, leaving a net mintage of only 47. After 83 years, the larger part of this surviving mintage has been lost or destroyed, leaving a mere handful of gold Norse pieces in existence for today's collectors. The present example with its delightfully high grade is a significant rarity, of the greatest interest to collectors of U.S. commemorative coins as well as to the rapidly increasing body of medal enthusiasts. All Norse pieces were struck with octagonal planchets, and the thick and thin silver strikes were almost the same overall diameter as U.S. commemorative half dollars. Coin collectors were made aware of the Norse when the great publishing tycoon Wayte Raymond included spaces for them in his trail-blazing National Albums of American commemorative coins. The gold specimens were unknown to most collectors, and one who remembered them was the late Max Braile of Jackson, Michigan, who long remembered acquiring one for \$20 in the year of issue.

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PCGS# 9452. NGC ID: 28NU.

1925 Norse-American Centennial Medal Trial

Copper Impression from Gold Module Dies

Discovery Example



10268 1925 Norse-American Centennial Medal. Copper. Swoger 24Bb-P1. Proof-63 BN (NGC). 9.2 grams. Medium to deep chestnut brown with some lighter highlights around the protected areas. An attractive example of the design type, here in a small-sized format normally reserved for gold impressions. It's supposed that this piece was produced as a dies trial before any gold strikings were produced. The presently offered medal was the subject of a feature article in *Coin World* (October 10, 2005 edition). The variety was discovered by Anthony C. LaVerghetta, who found the piece while examining a collection of tokens he had acquired some years earlier. His discovery was corroborated by Rick Montgomery of NGC, who was credited in the *Coin World* article with the observation that "The United States Mint . . . has historically tested some new dies for precious-metal products in baser metals."

Prior to Mr. LaVerghetta's discovery, we knew of just two copper trials for the silver Norse-American medals, one a uniface reverse and the other a normal two-sided strike. This is the first copper trial of the smaller gold-issue size we have ever heard of. As stated above, the gold module dies were used to strike precisely 100 gold impressions, 53 of which were later relegated to the Mint's melting pots as unsold. The remaining 47 pieces all have numbered edges. We expect that this exceedingly rare (and to our knowledge still unique) specimen — designed by James Earle Fraser, will create quite a stir when specialized Norse-American Centennial collectors vie for ownership rights.

Discovered by

PATTERN AND EXPERIMENTAL COINS

Extremely Rare 1838 J-79 Half Dollar

PCGS-Attested Original Striking



10269 1838 Pattern Liberty Seated Half Dollar. Judd-79 Original, Pollock-89. Rarity-7+. Silver. Reeded Edge. Proof-64 (PCGS). Obv: The Liberty Seated design, with raised letters in LIBERTY. Rev: An eagle flying to the left with the legend UNITED STATES OF AMERICA above and the denomination HALF DOLLAR below. The gunmetal surfaces of this near-Gem Proof exhibit gold and teal iridescence, with pleasant cameo notions occurring between the bold devices and glassy fields.

An extremely rare variety, examples of which have graced the cabinets of such illustrious numismatic icons as Harry W. Bass, Jr., Virgil M. Brand, and Byron Reed. The obverse is the famous Liberty Seated design by Christian Gobrecht, very nearly identical to the No Drapery design of 1839, except that the word LIBERTY is expressed in raised rather than incuse letters. The reverse features a Flying Eagle motif by Titian Peale, the design of which appears to have been the subject of correspondence between Treasury Secretary Levi Woodbury and Mint Director Patterson a couple years earlier in 1836. Woodbury wrote: "the attitude of the eagle for flight on its prey is considered best in the one (*sketch*) where India ink is used . . . tho' . . . perhaps the mouth should be closed." Shortly thereafter Patterson responded: "Your suggestion that the mouth of the flying eagle should be closed has also been made by the artist, and the change was tried; but the effect was thereby injured on two accounts, — first by taking away from the spirited appearance of the bird,

and secondly by smoothing down the feathers on the neck, which are never roughed, except when the mouth is open." Both originals and restrikes are said to exist in the literature, but Pollock was unable to corroborate this claim based on weight data. Originals would have weighed 206 grains while restrikes made using post-1853 planchets, 192 grains. A third category of pieces described by Pollock as having "anomalous weights," is yet a third category. Pollock listed the *anomalous weight* pieces under the heading of Judd-73, but it seems likely other 1838 half dollar patterns share this feature too. The anomalous weight pieces have weights less than 206 grains, and outside of the tight tolerances of the 192-grain pieces, which are almost always within a grain of the correct weight. Pollock conjectured that the anomalous weight pieces were restrikes struck on planchets made from pre-1853 half dollars that had first been polished. This would have enabled the coiners to avoid the use of the Mint's supply of half dollar planchets, thereby minimizing the likelihood of an inquiry that might uncover their irregular activities. The Harry W. Bass, Jr. specimen was determined to be 200.4 grains, consistent with an *anomalous weight* restrike, and the Byron Reed coin is clearly an original (206.3 grains), but very little other weight data has been recorded for the variety, and since most if not all specimens are now ensconced in certification service holders, not much additional information will likely be forthcoming.

PCGS# 11321.

Exceedingly Rare J-922 Pattern Quarter

Finer of Just Two Examples Certified by PCGS



10270 1870 Pattern Quarter. Judd-922, Pollock-1027. Rarity-7+. Aluminum. Reeded Edge. Proof-66 Cameo (PCGS). CAC. An extremely rare variety which seldom appears at auction more than once over the course of several years. *PCGS Auction Prices Realized* enumerates just a couple of appearances — in 2000 and 2003 — but none subsequent to that time. J-922 is part of the 1869-1870 *Standard Silver* pattern series. These *Standard Silver* patterns typically include strikings on silver, copper, and aluminum planchets,

and generally each metallic variation comes in both Plain Edge and Reeded Edge formats, with the result that there are typically six different varieties produced per die pair. Silver impressions were usually produced in the largest numbers, while copper and aluminum strikings are generally much rarer. Only two examples of J-922 have been certified by PCGS, of which this is the finer.

PCGS# 800081.

PCGS Population: 1; none finer.

Lovely 1870 Judd-996 Pattern Dollar



10271 1870 Pattern Dollar. Judd-996, Pollock-1127. Rarity-7+. Silver. Reeded Edge. Proof-64 (PCGS). Obv: Liberty is seated left with 13 stars around the border and the date 1870 below. Liberty supports a shield with her right hand, her left hand holds an olive branch, and a free standing liberty pole is behind the portrait. A scroll inscribed LIBERTY crosses the shield. Rev: The denomination 1 DOLLAR is surrounded by a wreath of cotton and corn, the word STANDARD inscribed along the upper border. Light mottled champagne

and rose toning over both sides. Fine accents of blue iridescence seen under magnification. Excellent reflectivity in the fields forms a pleasant textural contrast with the devices. An interesting design for the conspicuous absence of UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

PCGS# 61243. NGC ID: 26W2.

PCGS Population: 2; none finer within the designation.

Ex: Denali Collection.

Intriguing 1942 Experimental Cent



- 10272 1942 Experimental Cent.** Judd-2054, Pollock-2074, Burdette RB 42-23. Rarity-7+. Zinc-Coated Steel. Plain Edge. AU-55 (ANACS). OH. Even medium gray with some spots of dirt or encrustation on the obverse. Stuck in medal turn. An extremely rare issue from the testing stages of various alloys under consideration for the 1943 cent. This piece is struck on a blank of low carbon steel that was electroplated with zinc prior to striking. According to research by Roger Burdette, published in his recent book,

United States Pattern & Experimental Pieces of WW-II, 1,230 of these were struck in December 1942 and on other dates. Planchets were supplied by several firms. According to the uspatterns.com website, only about a half dozen examples are presently known of this Judd number.

PCGS# 511621.

From our (ANR) sale of the J.B. Worthington Collection sale, May 2005, lot 373.

Rare White Metal Uniface 1806 Half Dollar Pattern

Judd A1806-1, Private Restrike, Rarity-7



- 10273 1806 Pattern Draped Bust Half Dollar. Uniface Obverse Die Trial. Private Restrike.** Judd A1806-1, Pollock-6145. Rarity-7. White Metal. MS-63 (PCGS). This splendid example is virtually as made, the struck portion with a finely granular texture due to extensive rust in the die. The denticles around the design are somewhat distended, the force of the strike such that it caused the planchet to expand considerably. Indeed, the devices are sharply defined despite having been struck from a rusted die, and the surfaces on both sides are nicely preserved with even pewter gray highlights.

This pattern is listed in Appendix A of the Judd reference in the Die and Hub Trials and Splashes section, and also referenced in the Andrew W. Pollock study on patterns (P-6145). This rarity was struck outside the Mint in later years by using a discarded obverse die. This die is the style with the Pointed 6 in the date. A small number of these are known, some of which have the impression of a 12-cent envelope stamp (Henry Clay, Scott U52) on the reverse. The die is now a part of the American Numismatic Society holdings.

PCGS# 147893.

MINT ERRORS

Dramatic 1906 Reverse Brockage Barber Dime



10274 1906 Barber Dime—First Strike Reverse Brockage—AU-55 (PCGS). An absolutely fascinating piece, and one of the most intriguing in this sale. The obverse is as one would expect for a Choice AU Barber dime, the devices boldly defined within sharp, tight borders. The reverse, however, exhibits a dramatic full mirror brockage of the obverse design that is nearly perfectly aligned with the obverse when the coin is rotated around its vertical axis (i.e., medallion alignment). The brockage is also expertly centered within nearly uniform denticulation around the border. Both sides are lightly toned in pearl gray iridescence with a couple of tiny swirls of russet scattered about the obverse periphery.

As remarkable and profound as the brockage is, it is not the only feature of this Mint error that is worthy of note. This coin exhibits a *plain edge*, which is remarkable since with a

standard, uniform diameter and sharp borders it was clearly struck in a collar. Apparently, the wrong collar was used at the time this brockage was produced which, if true, establishes this piece as a “double error.” Unique, as are most important error coins. With the reverse of this specimen given over to the brockage, there is no mintmark to indicate the origin of this rare Barber dime. Was it struck in Denver in 1906 during the opening year of that facility’s coinage operations? Though we’ll never know for certain whether it was from Philadelphia, New Orleans, San Francisco, or Denver, the “what if” factor adds immensely to the desirability. Clearly an important piece for the advanced collector of both Mint errors and Barber coinage, we suspect that very strong bidding will be needed when this coin crosses the auction block.

PCGS# E4838. NGC ID: 23EX.

Rare and Visually Stunning 1923-S Quarter Struck 25% Off Center



10275 1923-S Standing Liberty Quarter—Struck 25% Off Center—AU-58 (PCGS). Lustrous light silver gray with just the faintest trace of soft champagne and pale blue toning noted, largely on the broad arc of unstruck metal. A bit of faint wear on the high points, but nicely struck and exhibiting good sharpness as is typical of broadstrikes, and

off center strikes where metal flow was not restricted by proper placement of the collar. Mint errors this dramatic are rare on Standing Liberty quarters and generate great enthusiasm. This one is a on a great date as well!

PCGS# E5744.

Prized Off-Metal Striking of the 1965 Washington Quarter



- 10276 1965 Washington Quarter—Struck on a 90% Silver Planchet—AU-53 (PCGS). Secure Holder.** Brilliant silver surfaces with a bit of light wear from a short time in circulation prior to it being noticed as something special and saved. Pleasing for the grade with no serious marks. A popular transitional wrong-planchet error that is the

result of an old standard 90% silver planchet intended for the coinage of 1964 getting into the production cycle for the 1965 coins that were to be struck on the new copper-nickel clad blanks.

PCGS# E5878.

Ex: Alfred V. Melson Collection.

PRIVATE AND TERRITORIAL GOLD COINS AND RELATED

Historic 1849 Norris, Gregg & Norris \$5



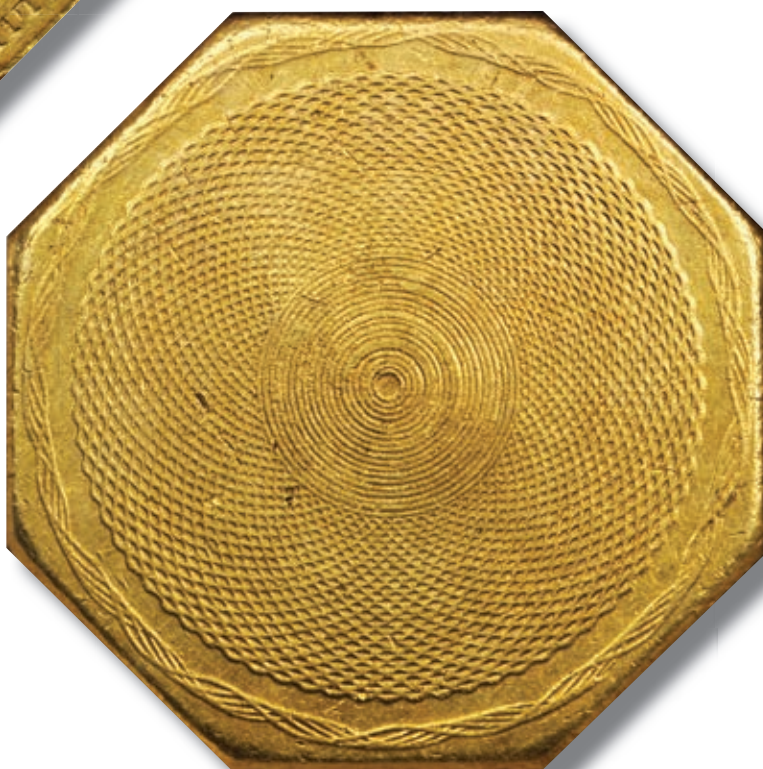
- 10277 1849 Norris, Gregg & Norris \$5. K-2. Rarity-5. Plain Edge. AU-55 (PCGS).** After the discovery of gold in California in 1848, the influx of prospectors and fortune-seekers far exceeded the coin supply, causing serious financial hardship. Trading in gold dust and nuggets was haphazard at best and susceptible to fraud. In the spring of 1849, partners Thomas H. Norris, Hiram A. Norris, and Charles Gregg established in Benicia City what was the first mint in the territory. Their firm was the first mentioned in the local press. In the May 31, 1849 *Alta California*, the editors noted a five dollar gold coin struck at nearby Benicia City, noting "In general appearance it resembles the United States coin of the same value, but it bears the private stamp of 'Norris, Grieg [sic] & Norris,' and is in other particulars widely different." It is interesting that it was described as resembling federal coins of the time, when in actuality it is notably different. In 1849, Norris, Gregg & Norris struck several varieties of \$5 gold

pieces with plain and reeded edges as well as with or without a period after the word ALLOY. The coins seem to have been accepted at the time as borne out by the variety of grades observed. Some brokers questioned the coins, but assays by Jacob R. Eckfeldt and William E. DuBois substantiated their purity. At some point around 1850, Norris, Gregg & Norris established a branch in Stockton. A solitary 1850-dated \$5 coin is known marked Stockton and is essentially noncollectable. The firm vanished with no indication of when they ceased operations; references to the coins in local papers had ceased by 1851. Probably never struck in any significant quantity, these coins stand as testimony to their brief minting operations in the gold fields. A lovely example for the serious California Gold Rush student and the finest territorial cabinet.

PCGS# 10279.

PCGS Population: 6; 11 finer.

Awe-Inspiring 1852 Assay Office \$50 Condition Census K-14



10278 1852 United States Assay Office of Gold \$50. K-14. Rarity-5. 900 THOUS. MS-63 (NGC). This satiny, exceptionally vibrant piece is also remarkably well preserved in a California Gold Rush era coin, especially one of the awesome size and heft of a \$50 “slug.” The rims are tight and overall smooth, as are most surface areas. Boldly, if not sharply defined throughout, this coin would serve as a centerpiece in the finest collection of Pioneer gold.

There are few numismatic items more historic or desirable than a \$50 octagonal “slug” from the United States Assay Office of Gold. The type serves as a vivid reminder of the tremendous wealth that came out of the hills of Northern California and the success and just as often the failures of those who headed West to seek their fortune. The California Gold Rush brought with it great riches, which also presented difficulties with a circulating medium of exchange. Gold nuggets and gold dust could be adulterated and of varying purity. Early private assayers and coiners took up the challenge, but those, too, were often found to be underweight or of insufficient purity. One of the earliest assay offices to buck this trend was Moffat & Company formed in 1849 by John L. Moffat and partners Joseph R. Curtis, Philo H. Perry, and Samuel H. Ward. Moffat & Co. produced circulating ingots as well as five dollar gold coins that were widely accepted. The local government petitioned Congress for a branch mint, but instead a United States Assay Office was authorized in September 30, 1850 with authorization to produce ingots in denominations from \$50 up to \$10,000. New York watch case maker Augustus Humbert was appointed the United States Assayer of Gold at San Francisco and traveled to California soon after. Moffat & Co. had succeeded in obtaining the contract to produce the ingots and Humbert soon joined up with the firm, bringing with him dies prepared by Charles C. Wright. By the end of January 1851, they were producing the famed octagonal \$50 coins. Moffat sold his interest in early 1852, though Curtis, Perry & Ward retained use of the

Moffat & Co. name. Soon after, Moffat & Co. dissolved and thus the United States Assay Office of Gold was born. Though not legal tender, the \$50 pieces were accepted by Customs Collector T. Butler King, giving them a form of tacit official status. Massive in size and weight, the slugs proved to be quite popular and many of the older private gold issues ended up at the Assay Office to be turned into the coins.

The 1852 \$50 pieces were made in three varieties, Kagin 11, 13, and 14. The Kagin 11 pieces were produced under Augustus Humbert's name at the .887 fine standard. The Kagin 13 were produced at the same .887 standard, but under the Assay Office of Gold imprimatur. The specimen offered here is a Kagin 14, a variety created out of necessity when an unexpected piece of legislation passed in August 1852 prohibited customs payments from being made in anything less than the .900 federal standard. Until this time, all Assay Office coins were in .880 to .887 fine gold, therefore this act served to severely limit the circulation of their pieces. Curtis, Perry and Ward began producing the slugs at the federal standard in January and February 1853 to the tune of about 23,800 pieces all told. They proved to be immensely successful and remained in use until the San Francisco Mint finally commenced operations in earnest and when most of these huge coins ended up in the melting pot.

It is believed a couple hundred \$50 gold pieces remain in all grades and types, but few can hold a candle to this magnificent specimen. NGC has recorded a total of 46 grading events, the vast majority of those between VF and AU. Only 8 coins have been certified at the Mint State level, with a sole MS-64 taking the top spot at this service. Because of their huge size and weight (just shy of 2 1/2 ounces of gold), the coins were prone to numerous abrasions and edge dings of which this specimen is mercifully free. A focal point for any numismatic holding.

PCGS# 10019. NGC ID: ANHH.
NGC Census: 1; 1 finer (MS-64).

Extremely Rare 1849 Massachusetts and California \$5 Struck in Copper



10279 1849 Massachusetts & California Co. \$5 Die Trial. K-5C. Copper. Reeded Edge. EF-45 BN (NGC). A somewhat enigmatic issue, as there is a good bit of uncertainty about the Massachusetts & California coins. The company was formed in Northampton, Massachusetts, and several members of the company did travel to California, but there is no evidence that the minting equipment ever made it. As most of the coins have been discovered in the East and the gold specimens have an alloy more suggestive of eastern gold than native California gold, it is believed that all were die trials made in Massachusetts before the members of the firm set out westward. As territorial patterns go, they are scarce, but not prohibitively so. They were made in a few variations, some of which are obviously later products believed to have been made by or for Stephen Nagy around the turn of the 20th century. Those generally accepted as originals bear the arms of "Alta California" on the obverse, the reverse with denomination in wreath at center expressed as "Five D," and firm name and date around. These come in a few compositions, and are often worn. Some obvious later strikes are styled similarly, but have a much more modern appearance and the denomination spelled out. Other variations exist, including this rarity. This is the only example we have seen of this die combination. The obverse is that of Kagin-5B, similar to the original reverse dies, but with a

smaller wreath, encircled with stars and no denomination. The reverse shows only the denomination in a plain field, expressed "5 [presumably, but not visible] DOLLARS", with the S reversed. There was no example of this rarity included in the great Henry Clifford Collection, sold by us (Bowers and Ruddy) in March 1982, which included 14 different examples bearing the Massachusetts & California name. This variety was also unknown to Don Kagin when he wrote his standard reference on pioneer gold in 1981. The only other example we are aware of was included in the incredible holdings of Robert Bass, cataloged by Don Kagin. Therein, he identifies this style as a "probable" Nagy product, suggesting some doubt. Both examples have a decidedly crude appearance, quite a bit different than other obviously circa 1900 styles. This one seems to have seen a good bit of wear and handling, which seems unlikely for a later product that would have undoubtedly gone directly into collectors' hands. The surfaces are deep chocolate brown, with scattered marks and traces of dark debris in the legends. Whatever the specific case of its genesis, which may never be known for sure, this remains an extremely rare piece from one of the famous firms associated with Gold Rush minting endeavours. As such, it is likely to always remain appealing to specialists of the pioneer gold series.

Clark, Gruber & Co. 1861 \$2.50 in Copper

Kagin-9a, Rarity-7



10280 1861 Clark, Gruber & Co. \$2.50 Die Trial. K-9a. Rarity-7. Copper. Reeded Edge. MS-64 BN (NGC). Vibrant teal and golden highlights accent the deep chestnut surfaces of this scarce near-Gem. Bold motifs emerge elegantly from the satiny, textured fields on both sides, contributing to the well-executed aesthetic of this experimental offering. These Clark, Gruber & Co. patterns first came to the attention of the numismatic community in the 19th century, and were separately handled in the 1880s by the numismatic auctioneers Charles Steigerwalt and Edouard Frossard. Examples ended up in the Garrett Collection from each

of those sources, and decades later were auctioned in our (Bowers and Ruddy's) sale of the Garrett Collection, Part I, in November 1979. The roster of collectors who have owned Clark, Gruber & Co. patterns reads like a *Who's Who* list in American numismatics including F.C.C. Boyd, King Farouk, H.O. Granberg, and Waldo Newcomer to name just a few. Don Taxay was the first author to popularize these pieces, and his attribution numbers have remained in constant use since the publication date of his *Private Gold Coins and Patterns of the United States* back in 1981.

PCGS# 389518. NGC ID: ANLL.

Famous "Humbert Eagle" Octagonal Gold Dollar

BG-501, Low Rarity-5

The Clapp-Eliasberg Specimen



10281 Undated (1853-1854) Octagonal \$1. BG-501. Rarity-5-. Liberty Head, "Humbert" Eagle Reverse. MS-63 (PCGS). Crudely reeded edge. Deep and lustrous honey gold surfaces exhibit lively rose and orange iridescence throughout. The strike is particularly bold with even the tiniest of feather details in the reverse eagle present. Absolutely mark-free, even under low magnification, making for a superior representative example of the date and grade combination. The "Humbert" eagle reverse is similar in style to that of the Humbert \$50 "slugs" that circulated in California at the time of this issue's appearance. From the firm of Frontier, Deviercy & Co., active in San Francisco in 1853 to 1864 at

the very beginning of the California Small Denomination gold series. The Breen-Gillio reference on the series notes that BG-501 is almost always encountered in circulated grades. Die State II with faint reverse cracks from the rim at 3 o'clock to the G in GOLD, and another upward from the lower right rim to the ribbon end above — these cracks are extremely faint. A grand opportunity to obtain one of the nicest extant examples of this rare prize.

PCGS# 10478. NGC ID: 2BKW.

PCGS Population: 5; 1 finer (MS-64).

From our (Stack's) sale of the Eliasberg Collection, March 2010, lot 1357. Earlier ex: Clapp.

HAWAIIAN COINS, MEDALS, TOKENS AND RELATED

Lovely Gem Mint State 1883 Hawaii Dollar



10282 1883 Hawaii Dollar. Medcalf-Russell 2CS-5. MS-65 (PCGS). Wisps of delightful pinkish-copper iridescence drift over both sides of this highly lustrous, satin-finish Gem. Exceptionally smooth in an example of this conditionally challenging type, this lovely dollar would serve as a centerpiece in even the finest collection of Hawaiian coinage and related pieces.

Wisps of delightful pinkish-copper iridescence drift over both sides of this highly lustrous, satin-finish Gem. Exceptionally smooth in an example of this conditionally challenging type, this lovely dollar would serve as a centerpiece in even the finest collection of Hawaiian coinage and related pieces.

In the nineteenth century, Hawaii's economy was heavily reliant on foreign gold and silver coins. The one previous attempt at a local coinage in 1847 was an abject failure and it was not until David Kalakaua I assumed the throne in 1874 that any further overtures towards a uniquely Hawaiian coinage was made. The Act of 1876 rendered official the close relationship with American coinage when it specified that gold and silver coins of the United States were legal tender at their nominal value. The first proposal came in 1882 from the Royal Cabinet Council under Premier Walter Murray Gibson which authorized the Finance Minister to enter into an agreement with sugar magnate Claus Spreckels. Spreckels, a close associate and business partner of Gibson, was instructed to procure enough silver for one million dollars total in dimes (*umi keneta*), quarter dollars (*hapaha*), half dollars (*hapalua*), and dollars (*akahi dala*) to be produced by the United States Mint, for which Spreckels would receive the same amount in 6% gold bonds. The coins would be struck on the same size planchets as their US equivalents, but Spreckels had also arranged that the fineness of the new coins would be at a reduced 0.840 standard, rather than the American 0.900 coin silver standard. Spreckels used this differential to increase his profit margins on the enterprise. Spreckels himself provided the sketches for the coins, the three largest denominations of

which all bore a portrait of Kalakaua on the obverse and the Royal Arms on the reverse. Spreckels' Germanic heritage is evident in his designs which were strongly reminiscent of contemporary large European crown and thaler size coins. Production began at San Francisco in November 1883 and lasted until the final deliveries in June 1884. The coins entered circulation, and Spreckels was paid handsomely for his efforts. The reduced fineness helped to confine circulation to the Islands, where they saw heavy, if brief, use. Kalakaua died at the Palace Hotel in San Francisco in 1891 and was succeeded by his sister, Liliuokalani. Alas, the Kingdom of Hawaii was not to last. Spreckels' arrangements with the government had left the Royal Treasury heavily in debt. When Queen Liliuokalani moved to change the constitution to restore powers to the monarchy, American businessmen who stood to lose influence in government, in addition to property, moved against the throne. The "Committee of Safety" deposed Liliuokalani, who in turn relinquished the throne to the United States in a vain hope that her sovereignty would be restored.

In 1898, the Hawaiian Islands became an American territory and the newly installed government began an aggressive effort to withdraw the 1883 coinage from circulation and replace it with regular U. S. coinage at par. By 1904, the coins were no longer legal tender and were melted down in huge quantities. Of the half million coins struck, all but 46,348 pieces ended up in the mint's melting pots. Most surviving examples are found circulated and quite often cleaned. Low-end Mint State coins are occasionally available, but the numbers rapidly diminish as the level increases. With the exception of the quarter dollar, Gem pieces of any denomination are seldom encountered. The dollar is no exception, and is a rare opportunity to add a showpiece coin from this this fascinating part of our numismatic past.

PCGS# 1615. NGC ID: 254G.

PCGS Population: 12; 7 finer.

END OF SESSION FOUR

Bidding Increments

Showcase Session

Bid	Bid Increment
\$0.00-\$99.99	\$5.00
\$100.00-\$199.99	\$10.00
\$200.00-\$299.99	\$20.00
\$300.00-\$499.99	\$25.00
\$500.00-\$999.99	\$50.00
\$1,000.00-\$1,999.99	\$100.00
\$2,000.00-\$2,999.99	\$200.00
\$3,000.00-\$4,999.99	\$250.00
\$5,000.00-\$9,999.99	\$500.00
\$10,000.00-\$19,999.99	\$1,000.00
\$20,000.00-\$29,999.99	\$2,000.00
\$30,000.00-\$49,999.99	\$2,500.00
\$50,000.00-\$99,999.99	\$5,000.00
\$100,000.00-\$199,999.99	\$10,000.00
\$200,000.00-\$299,999.99	\$20,000.00
\$300,000.00-\$499,999.99	\$25,000.00
\$500,000.00-\$999,999.99	\$50,000.00
\$1,000,000.00-\$1,999,999.99	\$100,000.00
\$2,000,000.00-\$2,999,999.99	\$200,000.00
\$3,000,000.00-\$4,999,999.99	\$250,000.00
\$5,000,000.00-\$9,999,999.99	\$500,000.00
\$10,000,000.00 +	\$1,000,000.00

Internet-Only Session

Bid	Bid Increment
\$0.00-\$49.99	\$2.00
\$50.00-\$199.99	\$5.00
\$200.00-\$499.99	\$10.00
\$500.00-\$999.99	\$25.00
\$1,000.00-\$1,999.99	\$50.00
\$2,000.00-\$4,999.99	\$100.00
\$5,000.00-\$9,999.99	\$200.00
\$10,000.00-\$19,999.99	\$500.00
\$20,000.00-\$49,999.99	\$1,000.00
\$50,000.00-\$99,999.99	\$2,000.00
\$100,000.00-\$199,999.99	\$5,000.00
\$200,000.00-\$499,999.99	\$10,000.00
\$500,000.00-\$999,999.99	\$20,000.00
\$1,000,000.00-\$1,999,999.99	\$50,000.00
\$2,000,000.00-\$2,999,999.99	\$100,000.00
\$3,000,000.00-\$4,999,999.99	\$200,000.00
\$5,000,000.00-\$9,999,999.99	\$250,000.00

Terms & Conditions

1. Auction Basics. This is a public auction sale ("Auction Sale") conducted by bonded auctioneers, Stack's Bowers Galleries or Stack's Bowers and Ponterio (hereinafter referred to as "Auctioneer" and at times as "Stack's Bowers"). Bidding in this Auction Sale constitutes acceptance by you ("Bidder") of all the Terms of Sale stated herein. Bidders may include consignors who may bid and purchase lots in the Auction Sale consigned by the consignor or by other consignors pursuant to their consignment agreement with Stack's Bowers ("Consignor" or "Consignors"). A Consignor that bids on their own lots in the Auction Sale may pay a different fee than the Buyer's Premium charged to all other Buyers. Stack's Bowers reserves the right to include in any auction sale its own material as well as material from affiliated or related companies, principals, officers or employees. Stack's Bowers may have direct or indirect interests in any of the lots in the auction and may collect commissions. THE TWO PRECEDING SENTENCES SHALL BE DEEMED A PART OF THE DESCRIPTION OF ALL LOTS CONTAINED IN THE CATALOG. Where the Consignor has repurchased a lot and the lot is either returned to the Consignor or otherwise dealt with or disposed of in accordance with the Consignor's direction, or pursuant to contractual agreement, Stack's Bowers reserves the right to so note in the prices realized or to omit a price from the prices realized. Stack's Bowers and its affiliates may bid for their own account at any auction. Stack's Bowers and its affiliates may have information about any lot that is not known publicly, and Stack's Bowers and its affiliates reserves the right to use such information, in a manner determined solely by them and for their benefit, without disclosing such information in the catalog, catalog description or at the auction. Bidder acknowledges and agrees that Stack's Bowers and its affiliates are not required to pay a Buyer's Premium, or other charges that other Bidders may be required to pay and may have access to information concerning the lots that is not otherwise available to the public. Any claimed conflict of interest or claimed competitive advantage resulting therefrom is expressly waived by all participants in the Auction Sale. Lots may carry a reserve ("Reserve"). A Reserve is a price or bid below which the Auctioneer will not sell an item or will repurchase on behalf of the Consignor or for Stack's Bowers. Reserves may be confidential and not disclosed. The Buyer is the Bidder who makes the highest bid accepted by the Auctioneer, and includes the principal of any Bidder acting as an agent.

2. Descriptions and Grading. Bidder acknowledges that grading of most coins and currency in this Auction has been determined by independent grading services, and those that are not may be graded by Stack's Bowers. Grading of rare coins and currency is subjective and, even though grading has a material effect on the value of the coins and currency, grading may differ among independent grading services and among numismatists. Stack's Bowers is not responsible for the grades assigned by independent grading services, and makes no warranty or representation regarding such grades. Bidder further acknowledges and agrees that grades assigned by Stack's Bowers and lot descriptions are based solely upon an examination of the coins and currency and are intended to identify coins and currency and note any perceived characteristics. However, coin grading and descriptions are subjective. Stack's Bowers does not warrant the accuracy of such grading or descriptions, nor do they in any way form the basis for any bid. All photographs in this catalog are of the actual items being sold but may not be the actual size or to scale.

3. The Bidding Process. The Auctioneer shall have the right to open or accept the bidding on any lot by placing a bid on behalf of the Consignor or his or her agent; a Bidder by mail, telephone, Internet or telefax; or any other participant in the Auction Sale. Bids must be for an entire lot and each lot constitutes a separate sale. All bids (excluding Internet bids) must be in increment as established by the Auctioneer, or half increment (a cut bid). Non-conforming bids will be rounded up or down to the nearest full or half increment and this rounded bid will be the bidder's high bid. No lot will be broken up unless otherwise permitted by the Auctioneer. Lots will be sold in their numbered sequence unless Auctioneer directs otherwise. All material shall be sold in separate lots to the highest Bidder as determined by the Auctioneer. Auctioneer shall have the right in its sole and absolute discretion to accept or decline any bid, establish bid increments, challenge any bid or bidding increment, to reduce any mail bid received, adjudicate all bidding disputes, to exclude any bidder and to determine the prevailing bid. The Auctioneer shall have the right, but not the obligation, to rescind the acceptance of any bid and place the lot(s) for Auction Sale again. Auctioneer's decision on all bidding disputes shall be binding and final. For the mail and Internet Bidder's protection, no "unlimited" or "buy" bids will be accepted.

When identical bids are received for a lot, preference is given to the first bid received as determined by the Auctioneer. A mail bid will take precedence over an identical floor bid; a Floor Bidder, Telephone Bidder and Live Internet Bidder must bid higher than the highest mail bid to be awarded any lot. Cut bids are only accepted on bids greater than \$500 and each bidder may only execute one cut bid per lot. Bids will not be accepted from persons under eighteen (18) years of age without a parent's written consent which acknowledges the Terms of Sale herein and agrees to be bound thereby on behalf of the underage Bidder. The auction sale is complete when the Auctioneer so announces by the fall of the hammer or in any other customary manner.

THIS IS NOT AN APPROVAL SALE. Bidders who physically attend the Auction sale, either personally or through an agent ("Floor Bidders") should carefully examine all lots which they are interested in purchasing. Bidders who bid by telephone, either personally or through an agent, or through our live auction software receive a similar benefit as Floor Bidders in being able to actively participate in the live Auction Sale ("Telephone Bidders" and "Live Internet Bidders"). Except as otherwise expressly provided in these Terms of Sale, NO PURCHASED ITEMS MAY BE RETURNED FOR ANY REASON. All prospective Bidders who examine the lot(s) prior to the Auction Sale personally assume all responsibility for any damage that Bidder causes to the lot(s). Stack's Bowers shall have sole discretion in determining the value of the damage caused, which shall be promptly paid by such Bidder.

Certain auctions (iAuctions), will be conducted exclusively over the Internet, and bids will be accepted only from pre-registered Bidders.

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4. Bidder Registration Required. All persons seeking to bid must complete and sign a registration card either at the auction or online, or otherwise qualifying to bid, as determined in the sole discretion of the Auctioneer. By submitting a bid, the Bidder acknowledges that Bidder has read the Terms and Conditions of Auction Sale, the descriptions for the lot(s) on which they have bid, and that they agree to be bound by these Terms of Sale. This agreement shall be deemed to have been made and entered in California. The Bidder acknowledges that the invoice describing a lot by number incorporates the catalog and Terms of Sale. Person appearing on the OFAC list are not eligible to bid.

5. Buyer's Premiums. A premium of seventeen and one-half percent (17 1/2%) based upon the total amount of the hammer (minimum of \$15), will be added to all purchases of individual lots, regardless of affiliation with any group or organization (the "Buyer's Premium"). A reacquisition charge may apply to Consignors pursuant to a separate agreement, which may be higher or lower than the Buyer's Premium.

6. Payment. Payment is due immediately upon the fall of the auctioneer's hammer. Payment is delinquent and in default if not received in full, in good funds, within fourteen (14) calendar days of the Auction Sale (the "Default Date"), without exception, time being of the essence. Unless otherwise agreed in writing prior to the Auction Sale, all auction sales are payable strictly in immediately available good U.S. funds, through a bank in the United States. Payments may be made by credit card, Paypal, check, wire transfer, money order and cashier's check. Cash transactions will be accepted in the sole discretion of Stack's Bowers, and if accepted, for any cash transaction or series of transactions exceeding \$10,000, a Treasury Form 8300 will be filed. Contact Stack's Bowers for wiring instructions before sending a wire. We accept payment by Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover or Paypal for invoices up to \$2,500, with a maximum of \$10,000 in any 30 day period. All payments are subject to a clearing period. Checks drawn on U.S. banks will be subject to up to a 10 business day hold, and checks drawn on foreign banks will be subject to a 30 day hold. Stack's Bowers reserves the right not to release lots for which good funds have not yet been received. On any past due accounts, Stack's Bowers reserves the right, without notice, to extend credit and impose carrying charges (as described below). Buyers agree to

Terms & Conditions (cont.)

pay reasonable attorney's fees and cost incurred to collect past due accounts. Buyers personally and unconditionally guarantee payment in full of all amounts owed to Stack's Bowers. Any person submitting bids on behalf of a corporation or other entity, by making such bid, agrees to be personally jointly and severally liable for the payment of the purchase price and any related charges and the performance of all Buyer obligations under these Terms of Sale and Stack's Bowers reserves the right to require a written guarantee of such payments and obligations. Bidders who have not established credit with Stack's Bowers must furnish satisfactory information and credit references and/or deposit at least twenty-five percent (25%) of their total bids for that Auction Sale session(s) or such other amount as Stack's Bowers may, in its sole and absolute discretion require before any bids from such Bidder will be accepted. Deposits submitted will be applied to purchases. Any remaining deposits will be promptly refunded, upon clearance of funds.

7. Sales Tax. Buyers will be charged all applicable sales tax, including Buyers who pick up at this Auction or shipments to Buyers in California and New York without a valid Resale Certificate which has been provided to the Auctioneer prior to the auction. Please note that the purchase of any coin or bullion lot(s) with a price, including the Buyer's Premium, in excess of: (i) One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000), for auctions held in Maryland, are exempt from Maryland sales tax, and (ii) One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500) are exempt from California sales tax. These exemptions do not apply purchases of currency. Purchases of coins and currency are exempt from sales tax in Illinois. Purchases of coins and bullion are exempt from sales tax in Pennsylvania, but currency purchased at auctions held in Pennsylvania are subject to Pennsylvania sales tax. Please note, this is not, and is not intended to be, a complete description of applicable sales tax laws in all jurisdictions. In the event any applicable sales tax is not paid by Buyer that should have been paid, even if not such tax was not collected by Stack's Bowers by mistake, error, negligence or gross negligence, Buyer nonetheless remains fully liable for and agrees to promptly pay such taxes on demand, together with any interest or penalty that may be assessed by the taxing authority.

8. Financial Responsibility. In the event any applicable conditions of these Terms of Sale herein are not complied with by a Buyer or if the Buyer fails to make payment in full by the Default Date, Stack's Bowers reserves the right, in its sole discretion, in addition to all other remedies which it may have at law or in equity to rescind the sale of that lot or any other lot or lots sold to the defaulting Buyer, retaining all payments made by Buyer as liquidated damages, it being recognized that actual damages may be speculative or difficult to compute, and resell a portion or all of the lots held by Stack's Bowers, in a commercially reasonable manner, which may include a public or private sale, in a quantity sufficient in the opinion of Stack's Bowers to satisfy the indebtedness, plus all accrued charges, and Stack's Bowers may charge a seller's commission that is commercially reasonable. More than one such sale may take place at the option of Stack's Bowers. If Stack's Bowers resells the lots, Buyer agrees to pay for the reasonable cost of such sale, together with any incidental costs of sale, including reasonable attorney's fees and costs, cataloging and any other reasonable charges. Notice of the sale shall be by U.S.P.S. Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested to the address utilized on the Bid Sheet, Auction Consignment and Security Agreement or other last known address by Stack's Bowers. The proceeds shall be applied first to the satisfaction of any damages occasioned by Buyer's breach, then to any other indebtedness owed to Stack's Bowers, including without limitation, commissions, handling charges, carrying charges, the expenses of both sales, seller's fees, reasonable attorneys' fees, costs, collection agency fees and costs and any other costs or expenses incurred. Buyer shall also be liable to Stack's Bowers for any deficiency if the proceeds of such sale or sales are insufficient to cover such amounts.

Buyer grants to Stack's Bowers, its affiliates and assignees, the right to offset any sums due, or found to be due to Stack's Bowers, and to make such offset from any past, current, or future consignment, or purchases that are in the possession or control of Stack's Bowers; or from any sums due to Buyer by Stack's Bowers, its affiliates and assignees. In addition, defaulting Buyers will be deemed to have granted to Stack's Bowers, its affiliates and assignees, a security interest in: (x) the purchased lots and their proceeds, and (y) such sums or other items and their proceeds, in the possession of Stack's Bowers, its affiliates or assignees, to secure all indebtedness due to Stack's Bowers and its affiliated companies, plus all accrued expenses, carrying charges, seller's fees, attorney fees, and costs, until the indebtedness is paid in full. Buyer grants Stack's Bowers the right to file a UCC-1 financing statement for such items, and to

assign such interest to any affiliated or related company or any third party deemed appropriate by Stack's Bowers. If the auction invoice is not paid for in full by the Default Date, a carrying charge of one-and-one-half percent (1-1/2%) per month may be imposed on the unpaid amount until it is paid in full. In the event this interest rate exceeds the interest permitted by law, the same shall be adjusted to the maximum rate permitted by law, and any amount paid in excess thereof shall be allocated to principal. Buyer agrees to pay all reasonable attorney's fees, court costs and other collection costs incurred by Stack's Bowers or any affiliated or related company to collect past due invoices or to interpret or enforce the terms hereof or in any action or proceeding arising out of or related to the Auction Sale. Stack's Bowers reserves the right to assign its interest to any third party. To the extent that the Buyer for any lot consists of more than one person or entity, each such person or entity is jointly and severally liable for all obligations of the Buyer, regardless of the title or capacity of such person or entity. Stack's Bowers shall have all the rights of a secured creditor under Article 9 of the California Commercial Code and all rights of the consignor to collect amounts due from the Buyer, whether at law or equity.

9. Shipping. It is the Buyer's responsibility to contact Stack's Bowers after the sale to make shipping and packaging arrangements. Due to the fragile nature of some lots, Stack's Bowers may elect not to assume responsibility for shipping or packing, or may charge additional shipping and handling. Lots indicated as being "framed" or that are specifically identified in the catalog are shipped at Buyer's risk. All taxes, postage, shipping, if applicable, handling, insurance costs, the Buyer's Premium, and any other fees required by law to be charged or collected will be added to the invoice for any lots invoiced to Buyer. All lots will be shipped FOB Destination, freight prepaid and charged back. Title and risk of loss pass to the Buyer at the destination upon tender of delivery. Acceptance of delivery constitutes acceptance of the purchased lots. Inspection of the purchased lots is not required for acceptance. Any and all claims based upon Buyer's failure to receive a purchased lot, Buyer's receipt of a lot in damaged condition, or otherwise related to delivery, must be received in writing by Stack's Bowers no later than the earlier of thirty (30) days after payment, or the date of the Auction Sale (the "Outside Claim Date"). As Buyers may not receive notification of shipment, it is Buyer's responsibility to keep track of the Outside Claim Date and make timely notification of any such claim. The failure to make a timely claim, time being of the essence, shall constitute a waiver of any such claim. Orders paid by credit card will only be shipped to the verified address on file with the credit card merchant.

10. DISCLAIMER AND WARRANTIES. NO WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE IS MADE OR IMPLIED ON ANY LOT. NO WARRANTY, WHETHER EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED, IS MADE WITH RESPECT TO ANY LOT EXCEPT FOR WARRANTY OF TITLE, AND IN THE CASE OF TITLE, AUCTIONEER IS SELLING ONLY THAT RIGHT OR TITLE TO THE LOT THAT THE CONSIGNOR MAY HAVE AS OF THE AUCTION SALE DATE. ALL LOTS ARE SOLD "AS IS" AND WITH ALL FAULTS. PURCHASER HEREBY ASSUMES ALL RISKS CONCERNING AND RELATED TO THE GRADING, QUALITY, DESCRIPTION, CONDITION, AUTHENTICITY, AND PROVENANCE OF A LOT.

a. COINS AND CURRENCY LISTED IN THIS CATALOG GRADED BY PCGS, NGC, ANACS CACHET, ICG, PCGS CURRENCY, PMG OR ANY OTHER THIRD PARTY GRADING SERVICE OR EXAMINED BY THE BUYER PRIOR TO THE AUCTION SALE MAY NOT BE RETURNED FOR ANY REASON WHATSOEVER BY ANY BUYER, EXCEPT FOR CLAIMS RELATED TO AUTHENTICITY.

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c. If an item or items are returned pursuant to the terms herein, they must be housed in their original, sealed and unopened container.

d. Late remittance or removal of any item from its original container, or altering a coin constitutes just cause for revocation of all return privileges.

Terms & Conditions (cont.)

e. Grading or condition of rare coins and currency may have a material effect on the value of the item(s) purchased, and the opinion of others (including independent grading services) may differ with the independent grading services opinion or interpretation of Stack's Bowers. Stack's Bowers shall not be bound by any prior, or subsequent opinion, determination or certification by any independent grading service.

f. Questions regarding the minting of a coin as a "proof" or as a "business strike" relate to the method of manufacture and not to authenticity.

g. All oral and written statements made by Stack's Bowers and its employees or agents (including affiliated and related companies) are statements of opinion only, and are not warranties or representations of any kind, unless stated as a specific written warranty, and no employee or agent of Stack's Bowers has authority to vary or alter these Terms and Conditions of Auction Sale. Stack's Bowers reserves the right to vary or alter the Terms of Sale, either generally or with respect to specific persons or circumstances, in its sole discretion. Any variation or alteration shall be effective only if in writing and signed by an officer of Stack's Bowers authorized to do so.

h. Stack's Bowers is acting as an auctioneer. Title to the lots purchased passes directly from the Consignor to the Buyer. Accordingly, Stack's Bowers is not making, and disclaims, any warranty of title.

i. Bidder acknowledges that the numismatic market is speculative, unregulated and volatile, and that coin prices may rise or fall over time. Stack's Bowers does not guarantee or represent that any customer buying for investment purposes will be able to sell for a profit in the future.

j. Bidder acknowledges and agrees that neither Stack's Bowers, nor its employees, affiliates, agents, third-party providers or consignors warrant that auctions will be unimpaired, uninterrupted or error free and accordingly shall not be liable for such events.

11. Waiver and Release. Bidder, for himself, his heirs, agents, successors and assignees, generally and specifically waives and releases, and forever discharges Stack's Bowers, and its respective affiliates, parents, officers, directors, shareholders, agents, subsidiaries, employees, managers and members and each of them, and their respective successors and assignees from any and all claims, rights, demands and causes of actions and suits, of whatever kind or nature, including but not limited to claims based upon Auctioneer's negligence, whether in law or equity, tort or otherwise, whether known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected (a "Claim"), which Bidder may assert with respect to and/or arising out of, or in connection with any challenge to the title to or authenticity of any goods purchased, the sale itself, any lot bid upon or consigned, and/or the auction, except where such Claim is otherwise expressly authorized in these Terms of Sale. It is the intention of Bidder that this waiver and release shall be effective as a bar to each and every Claim that may arise hereunder or be related to the Auction Sale, and Bidder hereby knowingly and voluntarily waives any and all rights and benefits otherwise conferred upon him by the provisions of Section 1542 of the California Civil Code, which reads in full as follows:

"A GENERAL RELEASE DOES NOT EXTEND TO CLAIMS WHICH THE CREDITOR DOES NOT KNOW OR SUSPECT TO EXIST IN HIS OR HER FAVOR AT THE TIME OF EXECUTING THE RELEASE, WHICH IF KNOWN BY HIM OR HER MUST HAVE MATERIALLY AFFECTED HIS OR HER SETTLEMENT WITH THE DEBTOR."

12. Disputes. If a dispute arises concerning ownership of a lot or concerning proceeds of any sale, Stack's Bowers reserves the right to commence a statutory interpleader proceeding at the expense of the Consignor and Buyer and any other applicable party, and in such event shall be entitled to its reasonable attorneys' fees and costs. Stack's Bowers reserves the right to cancel or postpone the Auction Sale or any session thereof for any reason whatsoever. No Bidder shall have any claim as a result thereof, including for incidental or consequential damages. Neither Stack's Bowers nor any affiliated or related company shall be responsible for incidental or consequential damages arising out of any failure of the Terms of Sale, the auction or the conduct thereof and in no event shall such liability exceed the purchase price, premium, or fees paid. Rights granted to Bidders under the within Terms and Conditions of Auction Sale are personal and apply only to the Bidder who initially purchases the lot(s) from Stack's Bowers. The rights may not be assigned or transferred to any other per-

son or entity, whether by sale of the lot(s), operation of law or otherwise. Any attempt to assign or transfer any such rights shall be absolutely void and unenforceable. No third party may rely on any benefit or right conferred by these Terms and Conditions of Auction Sale.

Any dispute arising out of or related to these Terms of Sale, the Auction Sale or any lot, with the sole exception of actions by Stack's Bowers to collect amounts owed to it and other damages, shall be submitted to binding arbitration pursuant to the commercial arbitration rules of the American Arbitration Association, with any arbitration hearing to occur in Orange County, California. Absent an agreement of the parties, the arbitrator shall limit discovery to that which is necessary to enable the hearing to proceed efficiently. The arbitrator shall not have the power to award punitive or consequential damages, nor alter, amend modify any of the terms of this Agreement. The award by the arbitrator, if any, may be entered in any court having jurisdiction thereof. Each party shall pay one-half the costs of the arbitration. Bidder acknowledges and agrees that the competent courts of the State of California shall have exclusive in personam jurisdiction, subject to the requirement to arbitrate, over any dispute(s) arising hereunder, regardless of any party's current or future residence or domicile. Bidder further agrees that venue of the arbitration proceeding shall be in Orange County, California; and any court proceeding shall be in the Orange County Superior Court, in the State of California, and in each case waive any claim of Forum Non Conveniens. Bidder agrees that any arbitration or legal action with respect to this Auction Sale is barred unless commenced within one (1) year of the date of this Auction Sale. AUCTION PARTICIPANTS EXPRESSLY WAIVE ANY RIGHT TO TRIAL BY JURY.

13. General Terms. These Terms and Conditions of Auction Sale and the auction shall be construed and enforced in accordance with, and governed by, the laws of the State of California, regardless of the location of the Auction Sale. These Terms of Sale and the information on the Stack's Bowers' website constitute the entire agreement between the parties hereto on the subject matter hereof and supersede all other agreements, understandings, warranties and representations concerning the subject matter hereof. If any section of these Terms of Auction Sale or any term or provision of any section is held to be invalid, void, or unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining sections or terms and provisions of a section shall continue in full force and effect without being impaired or invalidated in any way. Stack's Bowers may at its sole and absolute discretion, make loans or advances to Consignors and/or Bidders.

14. Special Services. If you wish to limit your total expenditures, please fill in the maximum amount you wish to spend on the MAXIMUM EXPENDITURE line at the upper portion of your bid sheet. You can then submit bids for amounts up to eight times the amount of the maximum expenditure. This is a personal service and a Stack's Bowers customer representative will personally attend to your bid sheet by bidding from the auction floor, buying lots for your account until your authorized expenditure is reached. While we will do our best in your behalf, due to the speed of the auction sale and the sometimes crowded conditions, we cannot be responsible for failure to execute such a bid properly. Due to the bookkeeping involved, this service is offered only to bidders with maximum expenditures of \$1,000 or more.

We invite you to take advantage of the optional 10% to 30% increase to help your chance of being a successful bidder. Check the appropriate place on your bid sheet.

Bidding in this auction sale constitutes unconditional acceptance by the Bidder of the foregoing terms of sale.

Please note: Transparent holders in which the auction lots are stored are to facilitate viewing and inspection of the lots and ARE NOT for long-term storage.

PCGS numbers provided are for bidder convenience only, we do not guarantee their accuracy. An incorrect PCGS number is not grounds to return a lot.

For PRICES REALIZED after the sale, call 1-800-458-4646. Preliminary prices realized will also be posted on the Internet soon after the session closes.

Stack's Bowers Galleries Announces the Auction Sale Dates for **The D. Brent Pogue Collection**

Stack's Bowers Galleries is pleased to announce our projected schedule for the auction events that will showcase what is certain to be the most valuable rare coin collection ever to cross the auction block. Carefully formed over many years by D. Brent Pogue with the support of his family in Dallas, the cabinet emphasizes United States coins of the early years, 1792 to the late 1830s, but includes many other treasures as well.

Included in the collection are many coins that are the finest known of their date and variety. The Sultan of Muscat Class I 1804 silver dollar, a nearly perfect Gem Proof, is far and away the finest known and set a record when the Pogue family bought it at the Walter H. Childs Collection Sale in 1999.

In the entire history of American numismatics there have been only two times when an 1822 half eagle has sold at auction: at the Harlan P. Smith Sale in 1906 and at the Eliasberg United States Gold Coin Collection in 1982. The Eliasberg coin, the finest of three known, was sold into the Pogue Collection. The other two examples are in the National Numismatic Collection in the Smithsonian Institution making the Pogue specimen the only collectible example and unique in that regard.

Connoisseurs and specialists in half cents, large cents, half dimes, dimes, quarters, half dollars, silver dollars, quarter eagles, half eagles, and eagles will have once-in-a-lifetime opportunities. Once sold, no collection of this scope and importance will ever be offered again.

If you would like to receive continuing information on the sale of the D. Brent Pogue Collection, without obligation, just contact Christine Karstedt by email at ckarstedt@stacksbowers.com. More information will be posted regularly as available at www.stacksbowers.com.



The finest 1804 Class I silver dollar, the Sultan of Muscat presentation specimen, now in the D. Brent Pogue Collection.



The Brand-Eliasberg-Pogue Specimen of the 1822 half eagle, the finest of three known, the other two being in the National Numismatic Collection at the Smithsonian.

Projected Sale Dates

All will be held in New York City.

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Thursday, October 1, 2015

Thursday, February 18, 2016

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Thursday, September 22, 2016

Thursday, February 16, 2017

Thursday, May 18, 2017

Thursday, September 21, 2017

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Stack's  Bowers
GALLERIES

America's Oldest and Most Accomplished Rare Coin Auctioneer

Stack's Bowers Galleries is pleased to announce our sale of

The Henry P. Kendall Foundation Collection

Highlighted by the finest collection of Massachusetts silver ever offered along with a 1792 Birch Cent, 1792 Silver Center Cent, 1861 Confederate Half Dollar and many other rarities

For many decades, a private collector quietly assembled one of the finest collections of American colonial coins ever formed. Capably facilitated by legendary dealer Lester Merkin, and ably assisted by the Stack family, the collection grew to include over 120 pieces of Massachusetts silver, outpacing the Boyd-Ford Collection to become the most complete grouping ever offered. The collection is now sold on behalf and under the name of the Henry P. Kendall Foundation, an American philanthropic enterprise that has been focused on environmental issues for more than fifty years.

The heart of the Collection is the early American coinage, led by the foremost assemblage of Massachusetts silver coins ever brought together for auction. Six different NE shillings, along with the Crosby Plate (1875) - Bushnell (1882) - Garrett Collection NE Sixpence, leaves the Collection complete by die variety among NE pieces, aside from the unique NE threepence permanently impounded in the Massachusetts Historical Society. The Willow Tree pieces are also practically complete, with five of the six known shilling varieties, a superb Willow Tree sixpence, and the only Willow Tree threepence in private hands. More than 50 examples of the Oak Tree type are included, led by the unique Noe-15 Oak Tree sixpence, called a "pattern" by Noe. A similar number of Pine Tree coins will be offered, including high grade pieces, extremely rare varieties, and coins with legendary pedigrees.

Other colonial and early American coins accompany the Massachusetts silver, including the Crosby plate examples of both the Maryland Lord Baltimore groat and the Standish Barry threepence, an extremely rare God Preserve New England Elephant token, a landmark 1670 Gloriam Regni 15 sols of Nouvelle France, and five Sommer Islands coins, representing each denomination, twopence through shilling. 1787 New York Excelsior coppers were collected in detail, featuring very rare Standing Indian and George Clinton coppers.



Undated (1652) NE Shilling.
Noe II-A, Salmon 2-B. Rarity-7. Ex: Winsor.



1652 Willow Tree Threepence.
Noe 1-A, Salmon 1-A. Rarity-8.
Unique in Private Hands
For The Denomination.
Ex: Wurtzbach-Ford. Noe Plate.



1652 Oak Tree Sixpence. Noe-15. Unique.
Struck over Cut Down Oak Tree Shilling.
Ex Bushnell-Stickney. Noe Plate.



1792 Birch Cent. Judd-4, Pollock-5. Rarity-7-.
Copper. Lettered Edge:
TO BE ESTEEMED * BE USEFUL.
Ex: Bushnell-Parmelee-Jenks-Col. Green.



Undated (1616) Sommer Islands
Threepence. Ex: Lauder.



1861 Confederate Half Dollar. Original.
Breen-8000. The Riddell Specimen.
One Of Only Four Known.

This magnificent collection's many post-Colonial rarities are led by several rare 1792 patterns. The highlight is undoubtedly the choice 1792 Birch cent acquired privately in 1975 from Stack's and the finest example offered since the 1979 Garrett I sale. A 1792 silver center cent, one of fewer than 15 known, showcases a design conceived by Thomas Jefferson and was among the first pieces struck at the Philadelphia Mint. Examples of the 1792 disme in copper and the 1792 half disme will also be offered.

An abiding interest in the history of the American South also inspired a focus on the coinage of the Confederacy. The 1861 Confederate States of America half dollar, one of just four original examples struck, will be sold publicly for the first time after having been a part of the Cabinet since its acquisition from Lester Merkin in 1971. A rare original 1861 Confederate States of America cent will also be offered, along with ca. 1874 restrikes by John Haseltine. These Confederate rarities are counterbalanced by three examples of the extremely rare Union 1864 Colored Troops Army of the James medal, commissioned by General Benjamin Butler to be awarded to African-American soldiers distinguished by their bravery in the attack on Newmarket Heights.

Mostly assembled from the late 1950s through the 1990s, with a few notable additions within the last 15 years, the Collection features many coins with famous provenances, including pedigrees to Bushnell, Parmelee, Winsor, Stickney, Jenks, Stearns, Groves, Garrett, Roper, Ford and more. Coins from the Collection have served as plate coins in Crosby's *Early Coins of America* (1875), Noe's monographs on Massachusetts silver, Breen's *Encyclopedia*, and other standard references. Many others have not been offered publicly in a century, if ever.

The collection will be offered at public auction in Baltimore, Maryland, as part of Stack's Bowers Galleries Official Auction of the Whitman Coin & Collectibles Expo in March 2015. Printed catalogs will be available prior to the sale and the Collection, along with the entire Stack's Bowers Galleries March 2015 auction, will be available for viewing and bidding at StacksBowers.com. **For more information on our sale of this collection, contact Chris Karstedt at 866-811-1804 or Vicken Yegparian at 800-566-2580.**

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